

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2998.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1885.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

**GOVERNMENT GRANT OF 4,000*l.*** for the PROMOTION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.—A MEETING of the Government Grant Committee will be held during the month of MAY. It is requested that applications to be considered at the meeting be forwarded to the SECRETARIES, Royal Society, Burlington House, London, W., marked "Government Grant," before the 1st of that month.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.**  
Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.

**TUESDAY NEXT, April 14, 8 p.m.**—Professor ARTHUR GAMGEE, M.D. F.R.S., Fullerian Professor of Physiology, R.I.—First of Eight Lectures on Digestion and Nutrition. One Guinea the Course.

**THURSDAY, April 16, 3 p.m.**—Professor TYNDALL, D.C.L. F.R.S.—First of Five Lectures on Natural Forces and Energies. One Guinea.

**SATURDAY, April 18, 3 p.m.**—WILLIAM CARRUTHERS, Esq., F.R.S.—First of Four Lectures on Fir-Trees and their Allies, in the Present and in the Past. Half-a-Guinea.

Subscription to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas.

**FRIDAY EVENING, April 17, 8 p.m.**—Professor S. P. LANGLEY, on Sunshine and the Earth's Atmosphere. 9 p.m.

To these Meetings Members and their Friends only are admitted.

**BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—The Tenth Meeting of the Session will be held on WEDNESDAY NEXT, April 15th, at 32, Saville-street, Piccadilly, W. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. Antiquities will be exhibited, and the following Paper read:—"Archbishop Elfric's Vocabulary," by E. Maunde Thompson, Esq., F.S.A., Keeper of Manuscripts, British Museum. W. DE GREY BIRCH, F.S.A., 1 Honorary E. F. LOFTUS BROCK, F.S.A., Secretaries.

**ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—MONDAY,** April 20, 4 p.m., the Rev. Prof. BEAL will read a Paper entitled "Notices respecting the Age and Writings of Nāgārjuna Bodhisattva" (from the Chinese). W. S. W. VAUX, Sec. R.A.S.

**ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.** 11, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, W.

**THURSDAY, April 10th, at 8 p.m.** Mr. W. ST. CHAD BOSCAWEN, F.R.Hist.S., will read a Paper on "The Gizehbur Legends." P. EDWARD DOVE, Secretary.

**THE LADIES' LEE MONUMENT ASSOCIATION** having in view the erection of a Monument and Statue to General Robert E. Lee, in the City of Richmond, Virginia, respectfully invites COMPETITIVE DESIGNS for the same, to be sent to the care of the undersigned, at Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington City, on or before the 1st day of January, 1886.

The Design shall consist of—  
1. A Model not less than three feet in height, showing completely both Sculptural and Architectural details, with main Figure or Figures not less than 12 inches in height.  
2. Drawings (Plan, Elevations, and Sections) to a scale of not less than 1 to 25, showing arrangement of parts and details of construction.  
3. Specifications describing fully the features of the Design, materials to be used, the mode of executing and erecting the Monument and Statue, together with an approximate estimate of the cost of the several parts.

Each Design (Models, Drawings, and Specifications) shall be marked by some character or motto, accompanied with a sealed envelope containing the full Name, Residence, and Occupation of the Competitor marked on the outside by the same character or motto. The amount to be expended upon this Monument and Statue will be 150,000 dollars.

Premiums will be paid for Designs as follows:—  
First Best Design..... 2,000 dollars.  
Second Best Design..... 1,000

Photograph, Map, and Description of the Site of the Monument, with other information, will be furnished upon application.

This notice supersedes the one already published.

Address Miss SARAH NICHOLSON, Secretary, President of the Ladies' Lee Monument Association, Richmond, Virginia, U.S. of America.

**NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—GLADWELL'S NEW GALLERY, 14, Gracechurch-street, will be OPENED in a FEW DAYS, as soon as the alterations are completed. The First Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings will be opened in MAY. Receiving days, April 20 and 21.—Forms on application to the Manager.**

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**BRITISH MUSEUM.—MR. THOMAS TYLER, M.A., will deliver FOUR LECTURES on the HITTITES, with special reference to Antiquities in the Museum, on WEDNESDAY'S, April 15th, 22nd, 29th, and May 6th, at 3 p.m.—Tickets for the Course, 6*s.* Single Lectures, 2*s.* 6*d.*; of Mr. G. FARNELL, Bookseller, 63, Southampton-row, W.C.; and at the Lectures.**

**MISS GLYN'S SHAKSPEAREAN READINGS AND TUITION IN ELOCUTION, every TUESDAY and FRIDAY, at the School of Dramatic Art, 7, Argyll-street, Regent-street, W. Address Miss GLYN there on the subject of vacant dates, or at 13, Mount-street, Berkeley-square, W.**

**LECTURES.—MR. WILLMOTT DIXON, LL.B., is now making arrangements for the delivery of his HISTORICAL ORATIONS in the coming Season. Subjects:—"The English Satiates"; "Heroes of British India"; "England under Three Queens"; "Our Empire of the Sea"; "Kings and their Poets"; "Florence under Savonarola"; "William the Silent"; "Mary, Queen of Scots"; "High Life in the Middle Ages."**

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Candidates will be expected to undergo a competitive examination by the Civil Service Commissioners in General Subjects. Zoology included, and show special proficiency in Entomology.—Applications, accompanied by two or three testimonials, to be sent to the DIACON, Natural History Museum, Cromwell-road, S.W., from whom further information may be obtained.

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Birmingham, March 25th, 1885.

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- The above for the Trustees of the British Museum.
- Laurentian Sophocles, pp. 236.
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5. MEMOIRS of M. DE VITROLLES.
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SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1885.

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## LITERATURE

*After London; or, Wild England.* By Richard Jefferies. (Cassell & Co.)

MR. JEFFERIES'S new book is a romance of the future. The scene is laid in an England gone to ruin and relapsed into the desolation of prehistoric nature; and the actors are some such men and women as might, under pressure of so tremendous a circumstance, be developed from our own posterity. The idea, it will be seen, is uncommonly fresh and striking. It is wrought out in a fashion that shows Mr. Jefferies at his best in some ways, and at his worst in others. As always, he contrives to invest his studies of scenery and inanimate nature with singular interest, and, as always, his men and women are unsatisfactory and incomplete. Never, it may be said, has he displayed a richer or more plausible imagination than in dealing with the geodetic and constructive aspects of his novel England, with its peculiar fauna and flora, its new developments of race and climate, its unwonted and startling conditions of life; and never, on the other hand, has he approved himself less competent to understand and reproduce the emotions, however simple and direct, by which humanity is governed, or to reproduce the speech in which those emotions are expressed.

How did England lapse into barbarism? It is a vexed question, says our author. According to certain theorists "the first beginning of the change was because the sea silted up the ancient ports, and stopped the vast commerce which was once carried on." Others maintain "that the supply of food from over the ocean suddenly stopping caused great disorders, and that the people crowded on board all the ships to escape starvation, and sailed away, and were no more heard of." A third theory is that "the earth, from some attractive power exercised by the passage of an enormous dark body through space, became tilted or inclined to its orbit more than before, and that this, while it lasted, altered the flow of the magnetic currents, which, in an imperceptible manner, influence the minds of men." Whatever the cause, the richer and better equipped inhabitants escaped *en masse*; only the poorer and more ignorant were left behind; and as these knew nothing of the processes by which their more lettered and

skilful contemporaries achieved the surprising results of which the fame has survived to this day, every vestige of knowledge soon disappeared from the land, and nothing remained but the material and the instincts of barbarism. One immediate consequence of the universal migration was the appearance in incredible numbers of mice and rats, and the multiplication in proportion of the wild things—hawks, stoats, weasels, and so forth—that prey upon them. Another was the enfranchisement, the return to savagery, of all domestic animals—as cats and dogs, horses and kine and pigs. A third was the occurrence of an enormous change in the physical conditions of the whole country, by the operation of which in the space of a very few years there was developed an England uninhabitable save by woodmen and nomadic savages. All the vagabonds and outlaws of the vegetable world increased and multiplied, so that the roads were hidden, and the fields and open spaces were garmented, in a matwork of brambles and briars, of rushes and water-grasses and thorns, out of which there grew all kinds of trees. Where the ground was moist there were groves of cow-parsnips five and six feet high, and great willow herbs "almost as woody as a shrub." In the brooks the hatches rotted, water-rats drilled the dams, the banks burst, and there were marshes formed all over the face of the land, "some of them extending for miles in a winding line, and occasionally spreading out to a mile in breadth." The downs became a wilderness of fern and heath, of beech and fir and nut, of hawthorn and bramble; "by degrees the trees of the vale seemed as it were to invade and march up the hills"; and "by the thirtieth year there was not one single open place, the hills only excepted, where a man could walk, unless he followed the tracks of wild creatures or cut himself a path." But the most momentous change of all took place inland, where there was formed a great lake of sweet water, "clear as crystal, exquisite to drink, abounding with fishes of every kind, and adorned with green islands." At the western end it contracts "between the steep cliffs called the Red Rocks, near to which once existed the city of Bristol"; and on the west it narrows until it is lost in the vast and horrible swamp which covers the ruins of London. On the west, it is opined, from one cause or another, the estuary of the Severn was throttled by the evolution of a broad barrier of beach, the river returned upon its course, and, meeting with the immense accumulations of the reflux Thames, expanded into this mighty lake, which escapes (by the way) by the channel of the Avon, where it overflows a dam, and so gets to sea. On the east the story of its genesis is infinitely more tragic and dreadful, for it is the story of the decay and death of the prodigious city known in history and legend as London. Here, too, the river was as it were choked and suffocated by the development of sand-banks and shoals in its estuary. To these were added the *débris* rolled down from innumerable ruins, the wreckage of countless cities, the spoils of innumerable sewers, the stone and timber, the flotsam and jetsam, of all the counties along its march. And, after a time, "all these shallows and banks became

well matted together by the growth of weeds, of willows, and flags, while the tide, ebbing lower at each drawing back, left still more mud and sand"; the waters, penetrating into the deserted city, burst the drains; the streets fell in; there appeared a wilderness of thicket and morass; and "all the rottenness of a thousand years and of many hundred millions of human beings is there festering under the stagnant water, which has sunk down into and penetrated the earth, and floated up to the surface the contents of the buried cloacæ." From this dreadful mass exhales a vapour so pernicious that no animal can breathe it and live; that when it is at its thickest "the very wildfowl leave the reeds." It is a place of pestilence and terror, haunted by hobgoblins, quick with peril and dismay, teeming with strange bale-fires and vapours horribly luminous. "There are no fishes, neither can eels exist in the mud, nor even newts. It is dead." *Troja fuit.* And this was London!

The desolation thus created is overrun with packs of wood dogs—the black, the yellow, and the white, the descendants of certain species bred by the ancients; with herds of wild cattle, white and black; with tribes of wild pigs, of which there are at least four kinds; with flocks of wild sheep—the horned, the thyme, the meadow, and so forth; with droves of bush horses and hill ponies; with herds of red deer and fallow, a thousand antlers strong. The beaver builds his lodges in the streams. In the thickets the forest cat abounds; and there are innumerable nations of birds—bush hens and white geese and wood turkeys and peafowl and white ducks—descended from the farmyard stock of the earlier inhabitants, with clouds of fowl that have been wild from the beginning of the world. The human denizens of the waste are of two families. One race, that of the Bushmen, appears to derive from the tramps and beggars of an older civilization; they live in "camps," as they call them, trapping game, drugging fish, clothing themselves in stolen sheepskins, killing wild things and tame often for pure delight in slaughter, to gratify a horrible lust of blood; "they are the thieves, the human vermin of the woods." The other family, "often called Romany and Zingari," seem to have been well known to the ancients "under the name of gipsies." They boast that a thousand years has made no change in them; and there seems to be no doubt that in earlier times "they remained apart, and still continue after civilization has disappeared, exactly the same as they were before it commenced." Both these races are nomadic; they inhabit the desert, preying on each other, on such isolated homesteads as they can attack with safety, and on such travellers as chance throws in their way. Civilization harbours on the shores of the Lake. It is the possession of a number of small communities, always at war with each other, and always in peril from without in the shape of invading hordes of Welsh and Irish and Scotch, with mercenaries from which nations, hostile though they be, they do not hesitate to recruit their own armies and garrison their own fortalices. The nobles are descended from those among the primitive inhabitants who could read and write; and to this day reading

and writing are the privilege of the noble class. The merchants, it is true, are allowed to know as much of these mysteries as will enable them to cast accounts and keep books, but in all besides such knowledge were criminal. As the nobles despise the accomplishment, and only acquire and practise it as a duty to their order, it follows that literature has ceased to exist, and that to be interested in anything beyond hunting and fighting, politics and extortion, love and money, is to bid for universal contempt. For the rest, a community is mainly composed of bondsmen and bondswomen: slavery is the common punishment, and the vileness of the institution is masked by a pretence of patriotism, an affectation that all is for the public good, which is a peculiar feature in the national character, and is the product of a thousand generations of hypocrisy.

The hero of 'After London,' a certain Felix Aquila, is a poor and scholarly noble. Of his thoughts and ambitions, his adventures and experiences (which include a marvellous visit to the ruins of London), we shall say no word, save that their story is incomplete, and that we hope in no great while to read the end of it.

*The Gentleman's Magazine Library: being a Classified Collection of the Chief Contents of the Gentleman's Magazine from 1731 to 1868. Edited by George Laurence Gomme.—Popular Superstitions. (Stock.)*

THE task that Mr. Gomme has before him is most laborious. No person who has any acquaintance with the contents of the long series of volumes which he has undertaken to rearrange and abridge can doubt that the work required doing, and however much we may differ from Mr. Gomme in some details it cannot be reasonably called in question that he is a man in many ways well fitted for his self-appointed task. Mr. Gomme has a wide acquaintance with folk-lore, and is not, as far as we know, pledged to any one of the several theories which divide folk-lorists into parties. It is not likely that any one would have been able to select better than he the articles which are worthy of reproduction. The only fault is that the book is in some places filled with speculative matter which is of no use to the modern reader, and which might therefore as well have been left out, dots being, of course, put to show that there has been an omission. Abridgments are commonly detestable things, but when a vast series like the *Gentleman's Magazine* has to be dealt with it is absolutely necessary to leave out something, and the original volumes, with all the chaff as well as the golden grain, are to be found on the shelves of all the great libraries, and still, we are thankful to say, in a few country houses. The earlier part of this volume treats of the superstitions which relate to the days of the year. This is perhaps the least valuable part of the book, as the *Gentleman's Magazine* has long been a quarry for those who have written concerning the calendar.

The portion which deals with witchcraft is by far the most important part of the volume. Men of science have had a good deal to say about witchcraft in recent days, and the better class of historians have told us much, but we believe that nothing approaching to a history

of the witchcraft delusion exists in our tongue. It is a subject well worthy of attention, for it is impossible to rightly estimate the position of the men of thought and the men of action of former days unless we are able to "think ourselves back" into the position of those who believed that an old crone could raise a storm on the ocean which might wreck navies, or blight the limbs of persons who were far away. When these things were held as a confident belief by men who were not only learned, but wise, it is not easy to understand how the pursuit of physical science in any form was possible. It would be interesting to have a list—it would be but short—of those Englishmen who flourished before 1700 and had declared themselves disbelievers in this delusion. William Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, was the greatest of them. A letter which Mr. Gomme gives, written by a person who knew him, says: "I was familiarly acquainted with him . . . and I once asked him what his opinion was concerning witchcraft; whether there was any such thing. He told me he believed there was not." It is interesting to find that he had arrived at this conclusion by a carefully conducted experiment. He obtained possession of a toad which was known to be the familiar of a witch who lived near Newmarket. This animal he killed and dissected, and finding it had a heart and lungs that differed in no way from the many others he had examined, he was constrained to believe that it was a toad only, not an evil spirit in toad-like shape. The whole letter, which is dated 1686, is well worth reading. Its writer, who does not give his name, was himself a firm believer in witchcraft, and thinks that Harvey was deluded by a "very weak experiment." This curious letter was printed by Sylvanus Urban in 1832. In 1829 a series of articles had appeared, written by some one who had certainly not entirely rid himself of the old ideas. He thinks the safest conclusion to follow is that of Blackstone, who affirmed that "to deny the possibility, nay, actual existence, of witchcraft and sorcery is . . . to contradict the revealed word of God."

Every one who knows country life—that is, who is acquainted with our unlettered peasants as they are, not as they would wish to seem to those with whom they are not familiar—knows that the belief in witchcraft is as strong as ever, and receives confirmation rather than a check by the paragraphs which from time to time appear in the newspapers relating to some gross fraud or mistake. The passage is read aloud by some one to an admiring circle, and it becomes the text on which a hundred traditional tales are hung.

A writer in the year 1828 quotes Coleridge as to the custom of the Christmas tree in North Germany. It would seem from the way it is spoken of that Christmas trees were not then known in England.

*Lectures and Essays on Subjects connected with Latin Literature or Scholarship.* By Henry Nettleship, M.A. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

THIS interesting volume belongs to a class which it is to be hoped may increase rapidly in this country. "The papers of which it

is composed represent, for the most part in a concentrated form, lectures or courses of lectures given in Oxford during the past six years." It is precisely the sort of product which professorships, and in particular those of the two older universities, should be expected to furnish. Recent legislation, directed as it has been in great part to enlarging and stimulating the university, as distinct from the collegiate, system of teaching, has been exposed to some not very wise criticism. Why, it has been said, increase the staff of professors, and labour to enforce the delivery of professorial lectures, when it is notorious that both in Oxford and Cambridge some of the most learned men cannot draw together a respectable class, and that another sort of teaching, that which the pupils really want and seek, is amply supplied by the colleges? Or why, it has been urged on the other hand, are not the university teaching and the university examinations so correlated that the professors may always fill their rooms? We do not assent to either of the principles implied. It is desirable in the interests of learning that the masters in each department should not only be at liberty to pursue investigations which cannot at once be made serviceable for teaching, but should also be required, by the fixed necessity of a course, to formulate their results. It is more than probable that the lectures which have contributed to this book were sometimes delivered to very small audiences; but the real audience are the readers. Nor will any one who knows the practical conditions of production contend that in such a case the lectures are a needless burden.

Let us, however, hasten to say that this volume, such as it now appears, is by no means narrow in subject or fit only for the professional reader. It may be divided roughly into two parts. The last five essays of the twelve—perhaps in some ways the most valuable part—do, indeed, deal with subjects suited only to the professed scholar. The precise relations between the works of Verrius Flaccus, Aulus Gellius, Nonius Marcellus, and other scholars or quasi-scholars of the imperial time, the question whether this scholiast's interpretations were borrowed directly or indirectly from that lexicographer, and the like, important as they are for the reconstruction of lost Latin erudition, and thus indirectly even for the purposes of literature, cannot possibly be made attractive. "The statements," as that great critic Mr. Huckleberry Finn observed on the 'Pilgrim's Progress,' "was interesting but tough,"—if Prof. Nettleship will excuse from sincere admirers the impertinence of the citation. On the other hand, the first half of the book, full of erudition as it is, may be read with pleasure by any one who cares for Latin or any letters. Best of all, to our mind, and certainly most graceful, are the 'Suggestions introductory to a Study of the *Æneid*,' already well known in a separate form. Here, as elsewhere, Prof. Nettleship shows himself zealous for the independence of Latin literature, for its value in substance and spirit, over and above its subordinate and formal merits as the mediator between Hellenism and the peoples of the West. Large concessions, indeed, the apologist of the '*Æneid*' is willing to make to



those "who are mostly content with comparing Vergil (as the phrase is) with Homer." But

"it is not so commonly asked whether a poet whose genius could absorb the admiration of Dante, and whose influence probably contributed more than any other towards informing the poetical spirit and the verse of Milton, must not have had some qualities and quickening principles of wider reach than the tenderness, delicacy, purity, exquisite sensibility, elevation of tone, and dignity of expression, which all allow to have inspired the music of Vergil's numbers."

Is there, then, any sense in which we can accept the anticipatory praise of Propertius "Nescio quid maius nascitur Iliade"? Prof. Nettleship, though he does not take this exact issue, would say, if we understand him rightly, that there is, and we should agree with him. The theme of the 'Æneid,' the divine mission of Rome to work out the decrees of Providence for the government of the world against the opposition of baser spirits and of human passions, is "something greater" than the romance of personal adventure which is the basis of Greek epic, and, we may add, if not greater, not less true, at all events, or less comprehensible by men of all times, than the theological schemes of Dante and of Milton. And if the very success with which the Julian conception was realized by Augustus and Agrippa makes it not quite easy to feel the force of it as it was felt when new to consciousness, there was never, since the Augustan age itself, a better time and place for reading Virgil in the spirit than England should be at the present moment; if, indeed, it be true that we also are awaking as the Romans awoke, though happily so far without such a convulsion, to destinies larger than we knew, pursued blindly, but hereafter to be intelligently pursued. The epic of Virgil was a true imperial force. Will our British Empire have any Virgil and could such a one help us if he would?

More novel, perhaps, but not less true, is the latter part of the essay, on the influences, literary, ethical, and religious, by which Virgil was determined in the form of this poem and in the inner development of the story. Here Prof. Nettleship makes and supports a proposition which is of the very highest importance. "The form of the 'Æneid,'" he says,

"is that of the Greek epic; not so, however, the cast of the principal thoughts which underlie it. These are partly Greek, partly Roman; but when Greek represent rather the traditions of the Attic stage.....than of the Homeric poems."

And again:—

"The spirit of the whole action is very like the spirit.....with which the Greek tragedy has made us familiar. The plot involves the resistance of individual passion and inclination to the more widely reaching divine purpose; human passion bent on its own fulfilment in contempt of the gods, and ending, as it can only end, in infatuation and ruin."

Most assuredly this is true, not only of the 'Æneid,' but of the nobler Augustan literature generally. Nothing is more unfortunate for Virgil than the really irrelevant comparison which the mere form of his work suggests with the Greek epos. The thoughts and feelings of Virgil and his contemporaries, so far as they are not national and their own, are the broad and deep thoughts of Æschylus and Sophocles, not the half-childish

though beautiful fancies of the Homeric bards. The formal debt of Virgil to Greek epic is immense, but if we look to the spirit it may be well thought that he paid for it dearly. If but for the Homeric poetry the 'Æneid' would not have existed, it is also true that almost every fault which is laid against the 'Æneid' may be traced to an unfortunate conformity with epic patterns. The conflict between the instruments of a world-embracing Providence on the one hand and lawless selfishness on the other, embodied before the Romans of the Virgilian age in the persons of Augustus and Antony, and reflected in every part of the 'Æneid' which has more than a technical merit—this conflict is, in the language of Greek literary history, a "tragic," not an "epic" idea; nor can the most skilful imitation of ancient simplicity bring into harmony with such a scheme the details of funeral games and of wounds inflicted by barbarous warriors.

For the pursuit of the main idea through the various episodes of the poem we must refer the reader to Prof. Nettleship, and turn for a few moments to his essays on Horace, and in particular to his remarks on the 'Odes.' Here we are still at one with him in the main, and are, indeed, only disposed to doubt whether he is not more right than he knows. The lyric of Horace, like the epic of Virgil, takes its inspiration from the vital struggle through which the Roman nation was then passing. It "represents the highest ideas which the national life of the Roman empire was capable of inspiring," says Prof. Nettleship; and still more definitely of the three books forming the original collection he says, "They represent the national feeling, passing from anxiety to a sense of security, which was excited by the events tamely sketched in outline in the pages of Dio." But we are bound to say that between this view of the 'Odes' as a whole and the statements of these essays upon points of chronological detail we find a repugnance not unlike that which the Socrates of Plato's 'Phædo' is made to point out between the professions and the practice of the philosopher Anaxagoras, when, having laid down the principle that the universe was arranged by Mind, he proceeded, much to the disappointment of his young reader Socrates, to develop his speculations without reference to this arranging "Mind," whose supremacy thus remained a vain assertion. How can it be said that the national feeling "passing" through historic stages is represented in a work which, if Prof. Nettleship be right, is historically "chaos indigestaque moles," the sequel coming before the antecedent, the pictures of different epochs ranged casually side by side? Or how, again, does the passage "from anxiety to a sense of security" find satisfactory expression in a collection where the series of poems dealing directly with the political aspect of things terminates with the bitter reflections and desperate apostrophe of "Intactis opulentior" ('Od.' iii. 25)? If Horace in his three books had the intention which Prof. Nettleship ascribes to him, surely it is strange that he should have thus cast his readers off the track by "making no use

of his *Mind*" (to recur to our Socratean analogy) and neglecting the advantage (we should almost say on this view the necessity) of an arrangement suited to the inner law of the thoughts. If, then, we hold, with the Professor, that Horace was in this matter at one with Virgil—that he did intend to reflect the life of his nation, that is to say, of the civilized world, in a great crisis, and was influenced, again like Virgil, by the thoughts and feelings of Greek tragedy—we shall be pleased to find not cogent the arguments from which the arrangement of the 'Odes' would be shown to be, from a historical point of view, no arrangement at all, but confusion. Indeed, we are a little surprised at the confidence with which Prof. Nettleship, usually most cautious and modest in conclusion, speaks upon some of these points. "Servit Hispanæ vetus hostis ora" ('Od.' iii. 8). "No doubt Horace is referring to the defeat of the Cantabrians by Statilius Taurus in this year." Let the reader turn to the commentators upon the Cantabrian history (e.g., Mr. Wickham, Introduction to Books i.-iii. in his edition of the 'Odes'), and observe the notice given by Dio Cassius (the only notice we have) of this performance of Taurus, and then consider whether the intention of Horace's allusion is a matter of "no doubt." Or take again the following passages: "in Persas atque Britannos" ('Od.' i. 21), "iturum Cæsarem in ultimos | orbis Britannos et iuvenum recens | examen Eois timendum partibus" (i. 35), "adiectis Britannis imperio gravibusque Persis" (iii. 5). Prof. Nettleship assigns these three poems, chiefly upon the evidence of the passages cited, to the years 29, 27, and 23 respectively, and carefully considers our fragmentary notices of Britain and Parthia to show that they are consistent with these dates. But surely when we observe that every passage contains precisely the same antithesis between East and West, and remember that Britain and Parthia were the opposite limits of the Roman dominion and the objects of vague schemes of aggression during the whole of the period to which Horace refers, it is impossible to base on these names any conclusion which we "cannot doubt." Prof. Nettleship himself notices that this antithesis will account for the language of i. 21; but it is equally good for all three. Nor are these by any means the least trustworthy of the chronological arguments. But in truth, if there is really no scheme of historical arrangement common to the three books, these questions of detail, as they are insoluble, so also are of little interest. If the work has a chronology, indications of date separately slight may be collectively clear and important. But if it be held that the work has not a chronology, few will be persuaded that the single allusions are sufficiently definite to tell their story, and in that case some abatement must, we think, be made from the praise which Prof. Nettleship gives to the 'Odes' as a poetic representation of national life. The fourth book is dated by Prof. Nettleship in B.C. 15 or 14. All that is certain is that it cannot have been projected before B.C. 15. It may well have been published later—even, considering the circumstances, years later.

The paramount attraction of the 'Æneid' and the 'Odes' has detained us so long

\* According to Prof. Nettleship, to the year 29 B.C. should be assigned, among other poems, Od. i. 29, li. 11, li. 8; to the year 28, Od. i. 12, li. 6; to the year 27, i. 35, li. 6, li. 3, &c.

that we have no space for the instructive discussion of the 'De Arte Poetica,' and must be very brief with the rest of the volume. In the essay on Catullus we are glad to see that Prof. Nettleship now accepts as proved the identification of Lesbia and Clodia, upon which, if we are not mistaken, he formerly expressed doubts. In that on the 'Earliest Italian Literature' he is again the champion of the Latin, maintaining that "the Italians appear to have developed the elements of their national literature independently on Italian soil,"—a proposition which, in the great difficulty of estimating on the present evidence what in the not yet Hellenized Italy was elementary and what was developed, we would neither deny nor affirm. However, the Latin part of the evidence is carefully collected and reviewed. The remaining subjects are the 'Pro Cluentio' of Cicero, and, first in place and high in interest, the life and teaching of Moritz Haupt.

Taken as a whole the book gives a vivid impression of Prof. Nettleship's wide range in Latin scholarship. There is, indeed, scarcely a department of Latin letters to which he does not bring something valuable. It is agreeable just now to remark that so good a book by so devoted a disciple of Conington is dedicated "to the memory of the late Rector of Lincoln College."

*The Diary of a Civilian's Wife in India, 1877-1882.* By Mrs. Robert Moss King. 2 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

THESE two volumes scarcely deserve the depreciatory estimate implied in the quotation on the title-page or the apology offered in the preface. They consist of the diary, more or less continuous, of the author's last five years in India, when her husband, a covenanted Bengal civilian, had reached the rank of district magistrate and collector. They pretend to be nothing more than the plain record of the life led by most Englishwomen in the north of India, and their author's hope is that they may bring a truer picture of the interests and trials of Indian life "before those who are apt to think of it as all fun and gaiety on the one hand, or, on the other, as a mixture of snakes, heat, and dulness." It is probable, however, that not only those who wish to become acquainted with Northern Indian life, but also those who are already familiar with it, will derive pleasure and profit from the perusal of Mrs. King's volumes. The author possesses many of the qualities requisite for the successful production of a work of this kind—an observation ever on the alert, a keen interest in the circumstances of Indian life, sympathy with the natives of India, and a light, eminently readable style, rarely incorrect, and not without a sly humour at times. But the great charm of the work arises from the author's happy disposition, which enabled her to face cheerfully the hardships of a woman's life in India, whether represented by the privations to be endured when in camp or on the march, or by the tedium of the hot months of forced seclusion. The former she happily regarded as, on the whole, good fun, though they taught her to value homely comforts hitherto unregarded, and the latter she accepted with a good-humoured resignation.

Writing at Sahāranpūr, she says in one passage:—

"Life here is very monotonous, but the monotony being pleasant and peaceful, life slips away unperceived at a wonderful rate; it is like tobogganing down the vale of years."

It is true that during part of the time she was in a climate where the nights at least were cold, but of this advantage she makes little, remarking:—

"Human nature unfortunately will not be satisfied with averages, and it is no consolation for being suffocated with heat all day to lie awake with cold at night."

At times, indeed, her *guy* is rather ancient and trivial. For instance, the story (somewhat marred in the telling, by the way) of the "tiger jumping about the railway platform" is an old friend, and the small squabble that arose when the pious colonel's garden-party clashed with a special church service is scarcely deserving of record. But on the whole the work is little defaced by that silly station gossip which, unhappily, makes up so much of Anglo-Indian life. Of the author's politics—when she does venture on that dangerous ground—all that can be said is that they are simple, if inadequate. Travellers who wish to use the work as a guide-book for the districts to which it refers will have to verify from more authentic sources many of its statements as to matters of antiquarian interest and the like. These, however, are faults which in a work like this, that makes no pretension to special accuracy or completeness, may easily be excused, though a critic would wish them absent.

There is one point on which it is sincerely to be hoped that Mrs. King's experience has deceived her. She has evidently a great liking for the natives, and is never tired of praising their patience under misfortune, their cheerful endurance of hard and irksome labour, their gentleness and natural good breeding. But she is convinced that their hatred of Christians is deep and ineradicable. Speaking of the false views of native character obtained by casual visitors to the country, she says:—

"A visitor can only see things very superficially, he is wholly irresponsible, and he finds it pleasant to pose as a kind of champion and be lavishly gracious to the natives and studiously cold to his fellow countrymen. If his life were cast, as theirs is, among these same natives, he would find this enthusiasm and novelty wear off. He would find that a gulf was fixed between him and men who, however long their acquaintance, would never admit him into their home life, would consider their wives and daughters insulted if he so much as alluded to them, would sooner die than eat at his table, and who in their inmost heart would not sorrow if every Christian were driven into the sea."

Mr. King's duties involved many migrations and changes of office, which will surprise those unfamiliar with the elaborate system of acting appointments prevailing in the civil service of India. Besides these migrations and the annual camping tours, several holiday expeditions to the hills and one notable trip into Kashmir gave Mrs. King ample opportunities for the exercise of her powers of description and sketching. The accounts of her wanderings are undoubtedly the best written and most entertaining parts of the book. The following is a fair specimen of her style:—

"The common sights along an Indian road, too, are always picturesque—the wide plains with herds of smoke-coloured, delicate-limbed cattle being driven slowly home for the night, accompanied by troops of ungainly, fierce-looking buffaloes, and flocks of goats, and black long-tailed sheep. Then gangs of wayfarers clad in every colour and degree of costume, from the simple suit of ashes of the fakir to the gorgeous combination of white and coloured raiment of some rich man who has just dismounted hurriedly from his carriage, drawn by a pair of white humped oxen, to salaam to Robert..... Whenever we stopped to change horses a crowd gathered round us, gazing at us as silently and respectfully as a herd of cattle, but much more picturesque to look at. One dear fat little girl about four years old had nothing on but a cap—but the cap was very fine..... Further on some men are ploughing in a field, two to plough and three to look on; but as we pass they all stand still to look at us, oxen and all. Then you pass a group of travellers making a halt, all sitting in a circle by the road smoking by turns the friendly hookah. Presently a perfect caravan of those quaint two-storied camel carriages, so like a travelling menagerie; then a long line of country carts creaking slowly along laden with indigopulp."

Many other simple passages of this kind might be quoted, showing how thoroughly Mrs. King has caught the lazy, dreamy spirit of Mofussil life.

It may be added that the work contains thirty-two full-page illustrations by the author, many of which are excellent both in drawing and reproduction.

*The Catechism of John Hamilton, 1552.* Edited by T. G. Law. With a Preface by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, D.C.L., First Lord of Her Majesty's Treasury. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

It is not easy to guess the reasons which induced the Delegates of the press of the University of Oxford to publish this reprint of the Scotch Catechism of 1552; still more difficult is it to understand why they should wish it to go forth with the sanction of a preface by Mr. Gladstone, and why Mr. Gladstone himself should have felt so particularly interested in the reprint of the book as to have spared some of the very brief vacation at his disposal last autumn to write the preface. The book itself is most important, no doubt, in connexion with the ecclesiastical history of Scotland, and especially at the particular date, immediately before the establishment of the Presbyterian Kirk. It is important also as an excellent example of the then Scotch popular language or vernacular. So far, however, as the style and language are concerned, there are other Scotch writings of the same period no less valuable; and as regards the contents, this Catechism is but one example—undeniably drawn up with great ability and unusually complete—of the many similar books of instruction for clergy and laity prepared by the Roman Catholic Church during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

The title of the original explains more accurately than that of the present edition its object and its authors. This describes it as a common and Catholic instruction in matters of the Catholic faith and religion, set forth by the authority of the Archbishop of St. Andrews, "Legatnait" (Legatus natus) and Primate of Scotland, in his provincial council

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held at Edinburgh in 1551. In a word, the book contains full and accurate teaching for all Christian men and women, according to the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church, upon the Ten Commandments, the twelve articles of the Creed, the seven sacraments, the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, prayer to saints, and prayer for the dead. Translated (if so strong a term may be used) into modern English, a more useful book of instruction, in simpler language, could not possibly be put into the hands of Catholics now. There is scarcely a word which would need revision; there is not a Christian duty which is left unenforced, not a Christian doctrine necessary to be held left unexplained as now taught by the Roman Catholic Church. If no others, English Roman Catholics at least may be grateful to the authorities of the Clarendon Press for this republication of an almost unknown book. For the book is so rare that only some eight or ten copies of the original are believed to exist. The present editor seems to have done his work most carefully, and he has prefixed a well-written and useful introduction.

John Hamilton, Archbishop of St. Andrews, was a natural son of the first Earl of Arran, and was born in 1512. In 1547 he succeeded Cardinal Beaton as Archbishop and Primate of Scotland. As such he presided over several provincial councils, and "set forth" the Catechism of 1552. In no other sense was he the author of it; nor, indeed, could the compilers themselves strictly be called "authors," for it was no absolutely new book, but a much longer and fuller statement of Christian doctrine than could be found in earlier books of the same character. The purpose of it was, as explained in the first sentence of the introduction,

"to provide that the christin pepil mycht be instructit in the faith and law of God, with ane uniforme and concordant doctrine of Christis religioun, agreeabil in all pointis to the catholic veritie of halie kirk."

And not only was it intended for the people, but for the clergy also, as was a book nearly contemporary and very similar, the Catechism of the Council of Trent. Thus the introduction further says:—

"Quhairfor we exhort yow [vicars and curates] that ye use this present buke to your awin eruditoun, and to your awin spiritual edificatioun in Christ Jesu our salviour."

And they are ordered

"Secundly to reid the samyn Catechisme diligently, distinctly and plainly ilk ane of yow to your awin parochianaris, for their common instructioun and spiritual edificatioun in the word of God";

and this especially

"everilk sonday and principal halydaie, quhen thair cummis na prechour to tham to schaw thame the word of God."

In short, this Catechism was intended to answer something of the same purpose as was the first book of Homilies "set forth" much about the same time in the Reformed Church of England, the chief distinction between the two—putting aside, of course, difference of doctrine—consisting in this: that the Scotch Catechism is far more dogmatic, clear, and decisive in all its teaching about the Creed, the Church, and the sacraments than the book of Homilies.

It may much better, in this respect, be compared with the famous books which were in common use among clergy and laity in the English Church in the fifteenth century, such as 'Dives and Pauper,' or the 'Manner to Live and Die Well,' or the 'Ordinary of Christian Men,' or even the 'Liber Festivalis.' Whether any books like these, intended not so much for spiritual reading as for popular instruction, were ever common in Scotland before the Reformation is more than doubtful, for we believe none is known to be extant. This Catechism may possibly have been the first attempt to supply their place, and, moreover, in a very authoritative and official way.

The moral condition and discipline of the clergy of the Church of Scotland between the years 1500 and 1550 seem to have been far worse than was the case in the Church of England. Mr. Law cites evidence for this which can scarcely be disputed, and says that even at the synod of 1552 three of the bishops who sat in it "were notorious for their immorality." Among the decrees of the synod of 1549 were canons which enjoined the clergy to put away their concubines, and to dismiss from their houses children born to them in concubinage. Nothing of the kind is to be found among the statutes of earlier and contemporary English provincial councils. To name no other cases, it is well known that Cardinal Beaton, the immediate predecessor of Archbishop Hamilton, was murdered "just after he had celebrated with great pomp the marriage of his illegitimate daughter to the heir of the Earl of Crawford"; and Hamilton himself "had several children by his mistress, Grizzel Sempil, commonly called Lady Gilston, two of whom were legitimated by letters under the Great Seal in 1551." That such a state of things could possibly have existed in the Scotch Church in the middle of the sixteenth century seems incredible; but it cannot be denied. No wonder, therefore, that the provincial council of 1552 spoke so strongly on the subject, and prepared with so much care a "common and Catholic instruction" which should teach both clergy and laity what ought to be believed as matters of faith and obeyed as precepts of Christian practice. But it came too late; the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the clergy, and their too general mode of life, had prepared the country for the ready acceptance of the "new doctrines" of Knox and the other Reformers. There were the same readiness and desire for something better than what was every day before men's eyes, both in the clearing away of religious ignorance and in the assertion of the necessity of more godly living, which prevailed in England in John Wesley's time. It was not that the people, either in Scotland in 1552 or in England in 1752, had conscientious objections to the Roman doctrine in the one case or to the Established Church doctrine in the other, but that in neither case did they really know what that doctrine was, nor were they taught what could rightly be called Christian faith. In Scotland the clergy did not trouble to preach and teach at all; in England the weekly sermon was often little more than an academical exercise.

There has been a good deal of dispute between historians and other writers who

have had occasion to refer to this Catechism as to its character. To quote from the introduction by Mr. Law:—

"Roman Catholic writers have found no fault with it. Mr. Walsh writes, 'The contents of the Catechism were the same as all other such catechisms used in the Catholic Church then and at present.' Dr. Bellesheim does not hesitate to describe it as 'a perfect work of its kind. The theological ideas are laid down with precision and are well put together.' On the other hand, critics and divines outside the Roman communion have, as a rule, attributed to the compilers a prudential, if not artful, design of avoiding or minimizing points of difference between the [Roman and Protestant] churches. Bishop Keith, asserting that no divine of his day need be ashamed of such a work, commends its author for his 'wisdom and moderation in handsomely eviting to enter upon the controverted topics.' Dr. McCrie admits that 'the opinions peculiar to Popery are stated and defended,' yet thinks 'there is an evident design of turning away the attention of the people from these controversies.'"

And Mr. Law adds his own judgment upon the question:—

"The reserve, the omissions, the peculiarities of language, cannot adequately be explained as mere controversial artifices to cover difficulties or disarm opposition. On the contrary, the origin of the book, its historical antecedents, go rather to show that it was a *bona fide* attempt to give elementary instruction to the faithful, without any special regard to their opponents."

With this judgment we quite agree, differing from Mr. Law only so far as to say that we cannot (as he appears to do) recognize in the Catechism any "reserve" of teaching, any "omissions" of telling people what ought to be believed or practised. So far from it, the teaching is complete, and controversy in no way seems to come into the mind of the authors (further than it must necessarily exist in all statements of Christian truth) any more than it can be found in such contemporary books as those which we have already named—for example, the 'Ordinary of Christian Men.'

Mr. Gladstone's preface is extremely short, scarcely more than a couple of pages. The first paragraph explains how Mr. Gladstone came to hear of the book. He says:—

"A quarter of a century ago the Catechism of Archbishop Hamilton was placed in my hands on the occasion of a visit to the library of the University of Edinburgh, over which I had at the time the honour to preside in the office of Rector. I was at once struck with its great historical interest and importance as a manual issuing from the very highest authority of the National Church, intended to guide, or even to constitute, the teaching of every parish priest in the land, and exhibiting the shape in which it was desired to present religion to the people of Scotland, at a moment when in England Reformation was travelling at an unexampled pace. I ventured strongly to urge a fresh publication of the work; and a degree of connection between myself and its modern presentations [*sic*] to the world may be taken as some apology for my presuming to prefix a few words to the admirable Introduction, supplied by the learning, care, and ability of Mr. Law."

Nearly the whole of one of the two remaining pages of Mr. Gladstone's preface is taken up with an objection to a remark which he heard many years ago by an Italian preacher, that Henry VIII. separated from the Catholic Church in consequence (the preacher said) of his "dreadful vice, I mean of lust." Mr. Gladstone's further observa-

tion, in which consists what seems to be his true reason for recommending a new edition of the Catechism, is certainly more to the purpose, though not easy of acceptance. He says:—

"What may appear to many the most remarkable characteristic of this authoritative and strictly synodical work [is this], namely, that it sets forth a system of Christian instruction within the limits of the Roman obedience, and immediately before the clang of the Scottish Reformation, which from beginning to end does not so much as make mention of the Pope, or of the Church of Rome."

There is nothing in any argument resting on such a proof or statement; the omission (if it can be called an omission) is not a "characteristic" of this work. Catholic catechisms, and books of the nature of catechisms, for popular use before 1550 were not controversial; they were simply dogmatic. This Scotch catechism is of an earlier date than that of the Council of Trent, and so far from following its pattern may rather be regarded as its type. In fact, Mr. Gladstone's "characteristic" may be said to apply almost equally to the Tridentine Catechism. In that book the Church of Rome is, if we remember rightly, not named; and the Pope but once or twice, as the successor of St. Peter, the vicar of Christ, the visible head of the Church, the centre of unity. So, in like manner, the Scotch Catechism does not speak of the Church of Rome, for there was no necessity nor cause. But when the same subject—the unity of the Church—is to be explained, then the teaching is as clear, and the doctrine as decisive and distinct, as if the Pope or the Church of Rome were plainly named. The "oneness" of the Church is the same subject in both catechisms, the "right faith" is explained in both to be exactly the same, the seven sacraments are the same, the same "evangel" is preached in both. In short, no shadow of difference can be even suspected between the Scotch and the Tridentine catechisms. We will quote from the Scotch book on this point in the tenth article of the Creed, and the more readily because the extract supplies a fair example of the general style and language of the whole:—

"*Sanctam ecclesiam catholicam.* The sentence of this artikil is this. I trow [believe] firmly that thair is bot ane haly kirk, that is to say, ane haly congregatioun of christin men and women our all the world, quhilk hais rycht faith, quhilk hais ressavit ane haly spreit, and is gadderit be the same, gydit and keipit be him, and daily incressis be the word of God and the sevin Sacramentis. I traist that na man sall be saif that is nocht of this kirk, that has nocht the same faith, the same evangel, the same sacramentis, the same hoip and cheritie. And that na Jew nor Pagane, Heretik, Scismatik, or that ar justly excommunicat or perseverand in dedely sin sall be saif, bot gif he be reconcalit to the same kirk and trow and do in all thingis as it dois.....Thair is bot ane faith, ane hoip and cheritie amang all, thair is na syndry sectis, or opinioun, or divisioun in the same communite. ....I professe also that quhasaever bydis nocht in the unitie of this catholik kirk he has nocht of the communion of sanctis, that is, he is nat part takar of the common gud before rehersit, quhilk is the merit of Christ and his sanctis and gud deidis of the christin pepil."

Some other reason must be found for the republication of this book by the University

of Oxford than a "characteristic" which may be attributed with equal truth and correctness to the catechisms of both the Scotch synod and the Council of Trent.

*Society in London.* By a Foreign Resident. (Chatto & Windus.)

It was a natural expectation that the success of the recent caustic description of Berlin society, whose author concealed a much canvassed identity under the pseudonym of Comte Paul Vassili, would provoke imitations. Vienna has already had the same measure meted out to her as Berlin, and now a Foreign Resident comes forward to do a like work for London. It hardly needed, however, the prompt disclaimer of Madame Adam, who is understood to keep at least the secret of Comte Vassili's personality, to discover that 'Society in London' has no connexion with its clever predecessors. Several reasons, indeed, combine to make it difficult to believe that the Foreign Resident's elaborate apology for presuming to criticize his hosts is anything more than a not too ingenious blind. Three or four parenthetical remarks are thrown in during the book to remind the reader that London is being seen through foreign spectacles, but the remarks are too obviously calculated to allay suspicion. The writer doth protest too much. 'Society in London' is distinctly English, both in tone and treatment. If we were to hazard a guess at the authorship, we should say that it is the production of some clever and practised journalist or essayist. Its analysis of the component forces of social life, the tendencies which it discovers and dwells upon, belong to the more serious criticism which has appeared for some years past in fugitive publications. It reads, indeed, much like a chapter out of Mr. Escott's 'England,' with a strong infusion of personal gossip and anecdote. Those who look for the piquant indiscretions and innuendoes of 'Society in Berlin' will therefore be disappointed. Its English rival is anything but a *chronique scandaleuse*. Full as it is of gossip, the gossip, though often amusing, is always of a reserved or of a general character.

There is nothing implying peculiar knowledge in the series of portraits which runs through the book; the characters and manners portrayed are mainly selected as illustrating some principle or movement. To the imagination of the writer, London society presents itself as a loose aggregate of incoherent particles. The centre round which this heterogeneous system revolves, and which alone exercises sufficient attraction to prevent it falling to pieces, is the Prince of Wales. In the Prince London recognizes a benevolent despot to whom it willingly submits; it indulges its various idiosyncrasies just so far as they are approved or condoned at Marlborough House. The Prince of Wales may be compared to "a physician of the body politic, whose prescriptions are regarded as infallible, and who decides in exactly what proportions the two opposite principles of social medicine shall be combined by inferior practitioners: how far Bohemianism may be blended with Pharisaism; in what quantity the acid of rakishness may be infused into the alkali of respectability."

After a careful sketch of the members of

the royal family, the plan of the book becomes simple. A few general reflections are made on the predominant tone and bearing of society, and then the reader is conducted by his gossiping guide through the various ramifications of the social structure. Our persistent habit of self-depreciation is commented on somewhat severely, and apparently the practice often goes beyond mere self-depreciation:—

"Grown-up men and women.....like children love to parade their own vices, and to make themselves out a thousand times more wicked than they are. No society could exist if it was half as corrupt as the members of London society, to judge from their casual talk or from the significance which their comments and allusions are intended to convey. But it is talk only—the lax garrulity of a race which is still laboriously endeavouring to emancipate itself from the fetters of Puritanism. It is Puritanism, it is morality, it is religion, it is the sense of duty, wedded to and regulating the fever of enterprise, which have made the English the race they are. Yet it is these obligations which society in London affects to ridicule."

By far the best group of portraits in the book is the gallery of living politicians. The author's political interests, indeed, seem stronger than his social. We quote a fair instance of his method:—

"Lord Randolph Churchill is a combination of coolness and of nervousness, of dignity and impudence, and of cynical indifference to everything but the whim of the moment.....He is always on the wings of elation or in the depths of despair.....He reminds one of a child who when he does not happen to be making a noise is ill."

On p. 197 an example is given of the ingenuous coolness with which the present Prime Minister's wife is credited. Being anxious to hear how his withdrawal from the Cabinet would be taken in the House, and yet not to be seen, Mr. Forster made his way up to the Ladies' Gallery. He was taken aback: the only occupant of the gallery was Mrs. Gladstone. The lady, however, was quite equal to the occasion. "She held up her finger at him and muttered in a low voice, 'Naughty, naughty!'"

On the whole, though 'Society in London' may disappoint readers who were looking for something more sensational, it ought to prove entertaining. Its information, though never startling and not far beyond the ordinary reader, is fairly accurate. No secrets are revealed, but, on the other hand, no glaring slips are made. It may furnish the historian of manners hereafter with a useful panorama of the time; it will be sure to possess interest in the present for that large circle who, not being themselves inhabitants of Vanity Fair, are the more eager to be taken round its booths by a well-informed and communicative showman.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*Lil Lorimer.* By Theo Gift. 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

*Hugh Moore.* By Evelyn Stone. 2 vols. (Blackwood & Sons.)

*Mark Rutherford's Deliverance: being the Second Part of his Autobiography.* Edited by his Friend Reuben Shapcott. (Trübner & Co.)

*Recalled.* By Charles Stuart. (Sampson Low & Co.)

The author of 'Lil Lorimer' has been successful in laying her scene in a land



somewhat remote from the usual haunts of fiction, and deserves credit for her description of South American cities and *estancias*. The heroine, poor girl, shares the usual fate of lively and not wealthy young ladies in a foreign town where their country folk are all of the male sex and mostly birds of passage; she gets "talked about" cruelly and unfairly. This misfortune has a reflex effect upon her happiness when a selfish and conventional young Englishman, having been entirely enslaved by her beauty, marries her on short acquaintance, without taking the slightest trouble to become possessed of her history or her real character. He does not learn how entirely trustworthy, "tender and true," she is until, after the fashion of husbands in novels, he has brought her near death's door with a broken heart and brain fever. Though so much of the plot is commonplace, there is great distinctness of character, both in Lil's transparent honesty and sensitiveness and in the lower, but not altogether unattractive nature of her husband Max, who, no doubt, becomes less of a puppy after the grievous chastening he receives. Capt. Carnegie, who rushes to all sorts of abrupt conclusions as to the cause of his comrade's murder, is a little too brutal to Lil, though his indignation is well described, and the short-sighted, passionate sailor is a notable figure. On the whole, "Lil Lorimer" is a praiseworthy story.

A yacht in the Ionian seas, a golden evening in Corfu, the English owner of the yacht and his companion, younger son of an Irish lord, a wily consul and his pretty daughter, with the intriguing spirit of her Levantine mother strongly developed—such is the opening scene and such are the leading characters of Evelyn Stone's acceptable story. The impressionable young Irishman is the hero whose adventures are related in two volumes of terse English, studded with natural incidents and dialogues. There is nothing out of the ordinary beat in Hugh Moore's experiences, and when the reader knows that there are more heroines than one he may make a tolerably confident surmise as to the development of the plot which dates its origin from that autumn trip in the Mediterranean. Two at least of Miss Stone's characters have abundant need of the warning about old loves and new loves; and indeed the whole coil of the story may be attributed to the difficulty of being fairly off with the old entanglement before another begins to weave itself. Dorothy Nevill is an artistic contrast to the consul's daughter, though rather inclined to preaching at and suggesting motives for her fellow mortals. The doings of the Corfuotes in England are well described, and furnish perhaps the most entertaining portion of the book.

Four years ago there appeared a remarkable book called 'The Autobiography of Mark Rutherford, Dissenting Minister,' the tale, says the author, "of a commonplace life, perplexed by many problems I have never solved, disturbed by many difficulties I have never surmounted, and blotted by ignoble concessions which are a constant regret." Mark Rutherford thus places his book before his readers in an unfavourable light; but they must make allowance for his humility. This "commonplace" life is only commonplace in the

sense that all the great features of life and death are commonplace. "The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun."

Mark Rutherford's life is distinguished by no strange and exceptional outer circumstance; only ordinary joys and sorrows come to him; but there are ways of going through life and its experience, and it is Mark Rutherford's mental attitude and history which are interesting. The 'Autobiography' ends abruptly, through the loss, says the editor, of a manuscript; but we were promised more if ever the missing manuscript should reappear, and now, after a lapse of four years, the editor redeems his promise. Perhaps an extract from the editor's note, placed at the beginning of 'Mark Rutherford's Deliverance,' will give a better idea than we can of Mark Rutherford's character:—

"Before I continue my friend Rutherford's autobiography, I wish to correct a misunderstanding in the minds of some of my reviewers. It has been supposed that I set him up as hero. This is the very last thing I should have thought of doing. I always knew him to be weak, the victim of impressions, especially of self-created impressions, and I always pitied him for his strange propensity to entangle himself in problems which he had not the power to solve. I knew also that he was morbid, and defective in that gaiety of heart which is so necessary to conquer the world. But I knew also that he had great qualities, a deep sincerity, a capacity of almost passionate affection; and he was to me a type of many excellent persons whom this century troubles with ceaseless speculations, yielding no conclusions and no peace. After half a life had been passed in a struggle in which he was well-nigh overcome, his mind seemed to find rest, and his sinews became thickened and invigorated. The questions which had tormented him remained unanswered, but they had lost their terrible urgency; and somehow or other, by what means I can hardly tell, he had fought his way to that victory which every man must in some measure achieve if he is to live."

Apart from the real interest of Mark Rutherford's story there is an unusual charm about the style, which is clear, direct, and simple. In the earlier volume, where the scene is laid away from London, in the country or by the sea, the rural influence is manifest in the style and treatment. But the scene of the present volume is laid in London, and the change of locality has involved a corresponding change in the style. The poor London toilers stand forth in vivid outline; we seem to see the men and women themselves—the journalist M'Kay, vehement and extravagant in his writings, diffident and tender, scrupulous and exact in his private talk, and his gentle and melancholy little wife; and we are touched by the terrible remorse that comes to him from his long misunderstanding of her.

Rutherford, who, as readers of the 'Autobiography' will know, has shaken himself free from dogma and is no longer a minister, earns a scanty livelihood by writing descriptive accounts of the House of Commons, and lives in the dreary region of Camden Town. M'Kay has rooms in Goudge Street, and the two spend their spare time together.

"M'Kay had a passionate desire to reform the world. The spectacle of the misery of London, and of the distracted swaying hither and

thither of the multitudes who inhabit it, tormented him incessantly. He always chafed at it, and he never seemed sure that he had a right to the enjoyment of the simplest pleasures so long as London was before him. 'What a farce,' he would cry, 'is all this poetry, philosophy, art, and culture, when millions of wretched mortals are doomed to the eternal darkness and crime of the city! Here are the educated classes occupying themselves with exquisite emotions, with speculations upon the Infinite, with addresses to flowers, with the worship of waterfalls and flying clouds, and with the incessant portraiture of a thousand moods and variations of love, while their neighbours lie grovelling in the mire, and never know anything more of life or its duties than is afforded them by a police report in a bit of newspaper picked out of the kennel.' We went one evening to hear a great violin player, who played such music, and so exquisitely, that the limits of life were removed. But we had to walk up the Haymarket home, between eleven and twelve o'clock, and the violin playing became the merest trifling. M'Kay had been brought up on the Bible. He had before him, not only there, but in the history of all great religious movements, a record of the improvement of the human race, or of large portions of it, not merely by gradual civilization, but by inspiration spreading itself suddenly. He could not get it out of his head that something of this sort is possible again in our time. He longed to try for himself, in his own poor way, in one of the slums about Drury Lane."

The story of their Drury Lane experience is full of interest. Through the shabby little room which is their Sunday haunt flit many strange folk; but those who wish to understand the power of the writer must turn to the book. The chapter which deals with the Leroys and the Butts takes us back into the country and the last century. Clement Butt (who, by an unaccountable error of the writer, figures as George in the latter part of his life) marries Rutherford's old love, the Ellen of the 'Autobiography.' In time Clement dies; Rutherford and Ellen meet again, and the story of their love and marriage is very touching. Their happiness does not last long; Mark Rutherford's deliverance comes in the shape of death, swift and sudden. Some striking notes on Job are appended to this curious work.

Mr. Stuart thinks it due to himself to say that his novel 'Recalled' was named and partly "hatched" before 'Called Back' made its appearance. The apology was not needed, and its object is not clear, for there is no plagiarism in the present work. The heroine is on a certain occasion left for dead, and a part of the plot turns on the belief in her death in the minds of other people. She sacrifices herself twice over: first for a worthless father—a very wicked and melodramatic father—and next for a woman in London who had befriended her in her trouble; and poetic justice leaves her with white hair at twenty-six, and the consciousness that at least one person is happy through her self-sacrifice. 'Recalled' is an interesting and pathetic story, though the author's English is not unimpeachable, as the following sentence will show:—

"Lucia, like the children do, had an immaculate belief that the merely calling in of a Doctor Bolus was a necessary cure and an immediate one."

Mr. Stuart's style is slipshod rather than characteristically vicious, and this is the more to be regretted because the substance

of his tale is good enough to deserve care and finish.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MANY students of contemporary politics will be grateful to Mr. H. J. Leech for the collection of *The Public Letters of the Right Hon. John Bright, M.P.* (Sampson Low & Co.), which he has made. The title given to the volume is not quite accurate, as many of the letters, addressed to private individuals, are only "public" in the sense of having been published, and dealing more or less carefully with public affairs. Some are of small value, if not apt to be positively misleading by their hasty expression of opinion on ephemeral aspects or merely local conditions of the grave questions on which they touch; for, as is well known, Mr. Bright is an impulsive letter-writer who has often before now been found fault with for the bold statements and strictures he has incautiously addressed to correspondents, who, pleased or instructed by the communications they have drawn from him, and, it may be, not loth to advertise their own names by coupling them with his, have straightway made the letters public property. The wonder, indeed, is that Mr. Bright comes so well as he does out of the ordeal to which he has been exposed by Mr. Leech. The volume contains, with three exceptions which are specified, every letter of Mr. Bright's that Mr. Leech could find in the newspaper files of the past five-and-thirty years; and of the total, which exceeds eight score, there are not many which do not afford welcome illustration, even when they treat of side issues and almost forgotten episodes, of the writer's shrewd common sense, political foresight, and unswerving loyalty to the principles he has professed through his long public life. In the first letter of the series we find him saying to a constituent who had scolded him for his vote on Mr. Roebuck's motion against Lord John Russell's Government in 1850: "To represent Manchester on such terms as an independent mind can accept is a position of honour which I hope I can fully appreciate; but to sit in Parliament as the mere instrument of party is no object of hope or ambition with me." The same honest tone is in nearly all that follow, whether they refer to the Crimean war, to Lord Beaconsfield's foreign policy, to fighting in Afghanistan, the Transvaal, or Egypt, to our rule in India and in Ireland, to the successive Reform Bills that Mr. Bright criticized or helped to pass, to such domestic questions as the liquor traffic and vaccination, the game laws and land tenure, or to the great Free Trade movement which Mr. Bright has had especially at heart. Read intelligently, and with help from the concise editorial notes and explanations which Mr. Leech has supplied, this compilation should be useful.

THE fresh interest that is now being taken in Free Trade and kindred questions, in France as well as elsewhere, appears to have induced the Duc de Broglie to issue a new edition of *Le Libre Échange et l'Impôt* (Paris, Calmann Lévy), a collection of essays written by his father about thirty-five years ago, but first printed in 1879. The late Duc de Broglie was an intelligent advocate of sounder views in political economy than were held by most of his countrymen in the days of Louis Philippe, and did something to prepare the way for the adoption of the Cobden Treaty under Napoleon III.; but he was not a thoroughgoing disciple of Adam Smith, Ricardo, and John Stuart Mill, and the lapse of a third of a century since he wrote has caused his opinions to be quite out of date. In the first of his three essays, on 'Les Impôts et les Emprunts,' he urged that taxes should be levied on capital, not on nett income; but he attempted no answer to Adam Smith's argument that it is the latter, not the former method, which alone meets the requirement that each man's contribution to the State expenditure shall be, as far as is practicable, "according to his means." In the second essay,

on 'La Liberté Commerciale,' he sought to reconcile the differences between the supporters and the opponents of Free Trade, alleging that the wise course is to introduce Free Trade gradually and with safeguards for native industries. His error was in supposing that any one country must produce something better than any other country in order to maintain its export trade. Ricardo showed that though England might produce both hats and boots better than France, yet, if England had more advantage in producing hats than in producing boots, under a system of Free Trade England would continue to be the chief producer of hats, leaving the boots to come from France. The Duc de Broglie's third and longest essay is a very crude 'Introduction à l'Étude de l'Économie Politique,' containing no original views of value, and several slips and serious blunders. In treating political economy as a moral science he adopted Bastiat's fallacy, which has been exploded by Prof. Cairnes.

MR. MURRAY has brought out a new and popular edition of the *Letters of the Princess Alice*, in which the biographical sketch by a German writer supplied in the former issue is replaced by a graceful memoir from the pen of the Princess Christian. This adds much to the attractiveness of the volume.

IN *Ros Rosarum* (Stock) E. V. B. has made a charming collection of what the poets have said about the rose. She has drawn from many sources—from the Bible, from the Palatine Anthology, from Hafiz and from Omar Khayyam, from Dante, from Ronsard, from Victor Hugo, from Heine—in fact, from the poets of all ages and countries. It is ungracious to find fault with so tasteful a book, but it is difficult to avoid remarking that Mr. Swinburne, who has written more charmingly about the rose than any other living poet, is represented by three extracts only, and that O'Shaughnessy's well-known lines are omitted, while the productions of some extremely minor bards are honoured by quotation. Of the many delightful things Mrs. Boyle does give we may quote an "unpublished fragment" by the Laureate:—

The night with sudden odour ree'd,  
The southern stars a music peal'd,  
Warm beams across the meadow stole;  
For Love flew over grove and field,  
Said, "Open, Rosebud, open, yield  
Thy fragrant soul."

In Greek E. V. B. has wisely drawn largely from Meleager, and in Latin from Martial. In Spanish she has omitted the celebrated ballad:—

Rosa fresca, Rosa fresca,  
Tan garrida y con amor;

and gives nothing, so far as we see, from the 'Rosa Blanca' of Loipe, or from his descriptions of gardens, which had great fame in their day. However, the book as a whole is a tasteful miscellany worthy of its accomplished compiler. It is a pity that in the small-paper edition sent to us by Mr. Stock the pretty woodcuts have suffered greatly in the printing.

MESSRS. BICKERS & SON deserve warm thanks for issuing a reprint—not, so far as we have discovered, differing from the last—of Lord Hervey's *Memoirs of the Reign of George II.*, as edited by Croker, in three volumes, with the appended letters and index. We should like to have an enlarged and completely re-edited and more copiously annotated version of this delightful chronicle. Its merits, and even more than these, its peculiar defects, demand better editing than that of Croker, who, however, has received somewhat hard measure, and deserved well for what, according to the standard of his time, he did. He could hardly be expected to reach the standard of to-day, with all its advantages of added knowledge. Such as this new issue is, we cannot but welcome it, seeing that the former one was very hard to get and dear.

READERS who are not discouraged by the commonplace opening of *Benjamin: a Sketch*, by R. and A. (Griffith, Farran & Co.), will be repaid later on by some lively sketches of society in an

English garrison town and, towards the close, of life at Monte Carlo. In spite of the inequality of this book—a result most likely due to joint authorship—it nevertheless contains some clever portraiture; the dialogue, save for the intrusion of some fashionable ineptitudes, is distinctly above the average, and the plot is free from improbability. The characters, too, are well contrasted and natural, if we except the elaborately drawn "ultra-Anglican" curate, who, it must be owned, improves greatly on acquaintance. Perhaps the most successful passages in the book are those which describe a charming, but heartless widow, and the adroit manner in which she foils the advances of her youthful admirer. If 'Benjamin' is a first effort, as we are inclined to suppose, the authors are to be congratulated on their achievement.

MESSRS. BELL & SONS have sent us shilling editions, illustrated, of *A Flat Iron for a Farthing* and two others of Mrs. Ewing's popular tales. The type is good and so are the cuts, and the paper is fair, so that these cheap issues deserve a wide circulation.—*Spiritual Readings from Jeremy Drexelina*, edited by the Rev. W. H. Cleaver, comes to us from Mr. Walter Smith. It is a translation from the 'Rose Selectissimarum Virtutum' of Drexel, the celebrated Jesuit. There is a good deal of vigour and quaintness about his reflections.

THE Grolier Club, a society of New York bibliophiles, has issued as its first publication *A Decree of Star Chamber concerning Printing, 1637*. To this handsome reprint an introduction and some interesting notes have been added. We congratulate the Club on its debut, and trust it may long prosper.

THE *Indian Press Guide* (Anderson & Co.) is a new venture which may prove useful to advertisers. The Indian journals are well given, but the list of periodicals published in England seems to be compiled on no principle whatever.

MR. WALFORD'S well-known publications *The Shilling Peerage*, *The Shilling Baronetage*, *The Shilling Knightage*, and *The Shilling House of Commons* have been sent to us by Messrs. Chatto & Windus.

WE have received *The Calendar of the University College of Wales* (Manchester, Cornish), which shows the college to be full of activity. The appointment of a lecturer in French and German has relieved Prof. Ethé from some of his multifarious labours.—*The Report of the Froebel Society* (Rice), which relates the satisfactory results of the examination of kindergarten teachers, is on our table, and so is an excellent *Address on the Office of a Training College* (Liverpool Printing Company), delivered by Mr. Fitch at the opening of the Edgell Hill Training College.

WE have on our table three numbers of an able and promising magazine, *La Revue Contemporaine*, published in Paris, and edited by M. E. Rod.

WE have also on our table *Charles Darwin*, by E. Woodall (Trübner).—*All Round Spain by Road and Rail*, by F. H. Deverell (Low).—*India, its Condition, Religion, and Missions*, by Rev. J. Bradbury (Snow).—*Langton's Examples in Arithmetic*, Standard VII. (Murby).—*The English Language*, by R. Turner (Trübner).—*A Handbook of Latin Synonymes*, by E. A. Shumway (Boston, U.S., Ginn & Heath).—*Glenny's Garden Almanac* (Ward & Lock).—*Notes on Elementary Physiography*, by W. S. Furneaux (Murby).—*Holidays at a Hydropathic* (Edinburgh, Brydone & Luke).—*London Water*, by A. De C. Scott (Chapman & Hall).—*The Roumanian Code of Commerce*, by J. Dulberg (Manchester, Ling).—*The Works' Manager's Hand-book of Modern Rules*, by W. S. Hutton (Lockwood).—*Gleanings from the Past and Memorials from the Present*, by T. R. Davison ('British Architect' Office).—*English Scenery*, by Rev. J. Holroyde (L.L.S.).—*Quiet Waters*, by M. W. H. (Paisley, Parlange).—*The Homology*

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by M. W. H. (Paisley, Parlange).—*The Homology*



of *Economic Justice* (Kegan Paul).—*Satires and Profanities*, by J. Thomson (Progressive Publishing Company).—*Letters on Daily Life*, by E. M. Sewell (Smith).—*The Sere and Yellow Leaf*, by F. M. Wilbraham (Macmillan).—*With the Best Intentions*, by J. Bickerdyke (Sonnenschein).—*Icaria*, by A. Shaw (Putnam's).—*Choice Readings*, compiled by R. J. Fulton and T. C. Trueblood (Boston, U.S., Ginn & Heath).—*Spinning-Wheel Stories*, by L. M. Alcott (Low).—*The Heiress of Wylmington*, by E. Everett-Green (Nelson).—*and A Summer Christmas*, by D. B. W. Sladen (Griffith & Farran).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

Calthrop's (Rev. G.) Family Prayers for Four Weeks, 3/6 cl.  
Exell (Rev. J. S.) and Leale's (Rev. T. H.) Preacher's Homiletical Commentary on Book of Genesis, 8vo. 10/ cl.  
Jellis (Rev. W. H.) and Brown's (Rev. F. W.) Preacher's Homiletical Commentary on Book of Leviticus, 5/ cl.  
Wilson's (J.) Thoughts on Science, Theology, and Ethics, 3/6

## Law.

Geary's (W. N. M.) The Law of Theatres and Music-Halls, 5/ Poetry.

Leith's (E.) Thoughts and Remembrance, Verses, 12mo. 3/6

## Philosophy.

Caird's (E.) The Social Philosophy and Religion of Comte, 5/ Perrin's (R. S.) The Religion of Philosophy, or the Unification of Knowledge, 8vo. 16/ cl.

## History and Biography.

Hound and Horn, Life and Recollections of G. Carter, the Great Huntsman, by I. H. G., cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.  
Hyde's (J. W.) The Royal Mail, its Curiousities and Romance, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.

## Geography and Travel.

Edwards's (H. S.) Russian Projects against India from the Czar Peter to General Skobeleff, 8vo. 12/ cl.  
Roberts's (E.) With the Invaders, Glimpses of the South-West, 12mo. 4/6 cl.  
Ward's (M. J. B.) Child's Geography of England, 8vo. 2/ cl.

## Philology.

Evagoras (The) of Iocates, with an Introduction and Notes by H. Clarke, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Juvenal, Sixteen Satires of, trans. by S. H. Jeyes, 3/6 cl.  
Kuphal's (O.) Method for the Idiomatic Study of German, Part I, 8vo. 10/ hf. bd.

## Science.

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## FOREIGN.

## Theology.

Schmid (F.): De Inspiratione Bibliorum Vi et Ratione, 7m. 20.

## Fine Art.

Oechelhäuser (A. v.): Dürers Apokalyptische Reiter, 2m.

## Philology.

Chronicon Parium, rec. J. Flach, 2m. 40.  
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Schäfer (A.): Die Græcismen bei den Augusteischen Dichtern, 1m. 60.  
Theophrastus Chronographia, rec. C. de Boor, Vol. 2, 30m.

## Science.

Neumann (F.): Vorlesungen üb. Theoretische Optik, 9m. 60.  
Weyrauch (J. J.): Aufgaben zur Theorie Elastischer Körper, 8m.

## PRIMROSES.

THE rancour of the East Wind quell'd, a thrush  
Joyfully talking on through glittering rain,  
O see the yellow tufts along the lane,  
Crowding the budded copse round every bush,  
Starring the dingle by its brooklet's gush,  
Doting the elm-path's border,—who not fan  
To drink their tender sweetness, cool and fresh,  
The very breath of Spring, return'd again?

The Child's Flow'r, in the childhood of the year:  
Our slopes and woods but yesterday were drear,  
Now all the country breaks into a smile  
Of Primroses, and Youth is full of cheer;  
This fragrant vernal breeze in some, the while,  
Waking old thoughts, unutterably dear.

WILLIAM ALLINGHAM.

## HISTORIC AND OTHER DOUBTS.

HAS the originality of Archbishop Whately's 'Historic Doubts as to the Existence of Napoleon Buonaparte' ever been called in question? It may in any case interest some of your readers to know that two years before the publication of the first edition of 'Historic Doubts' a pamphlet was produced by J. B. Pérez, librarian of the town of Agen, called 'Comme quoi Napoléon n'a jamais Existé: Grand Erratum, Source d'un Nombre infini d'Errata à noter dans l'Histoire du XIX. Siècle.' Archbishop Whately's pamphlet was issued in 1819, the brochure of M. Pérez in 1817. The latter in the original edition is now very rare, and though it contains scarcely enough matter to fill two pages of the *Athenæum* its selling price is twenty-five francs.

In the preface to the fourth (and I believe last) edition of 'Historic Doubts' the author speaks of various criticisms passed upon his work, but makes no reference to M. Pérez, whose *jeu d'esprit* he may never have seen. After the final removal of the French emperor to St. Helena the dead calm which, throughout the continent of Europe, succeeded the agitation and bloodshed of the previous twenty years may have suggested to more than one mind that things were now going on as though Napoleon 'had never existed.' As a matter of fact, however, this idea took form in the mind of the librarian of Agen two years before any expression was given to it by the Archbishop of Dublin.

The object, too, with which Pérez wrote his 'Comme quoi Napoléon n'a jamais Existé' was the same in principle as that which Whately had before him in writing 'Historic Doubts.' Both writers wished to discredit the arguments of scepticism against Christianity. But while Pérez ridiculed the views of Dupuis in his 'Origine de tous les Cultes,' Whately endeavoured to show the falseness of Hume's reasoning in his 'Essay on Miracles.' Whately refers constantly in foot-notes to Hume's essay and cites passages from it. Pérez, with more art, makes no mention of Dupuis's book. But his intention is obvious from his very first paragraph, in which he at once disposes of Napoleon and all Napoleonic history as a solar myth. "Napoleon Bonaparte," he begins, "of whom so many things have been written, never even existed. He is only an allegorical personage. He is the sun personified; and our assertion will be proved if we show that everything that has been published about Napoleon the Great is borrowed from the great star."

The name of Napoleon has, according to Pérez, the same origin as that of Apollo, signifying at once the "sun-god" and the "destroyer"; and Bona-parte stands for light, as Mala-parte would have stood for darkness. Napoleon, like Apollo, is said to have been born in one of the islands of the Mediterranean. Napoleon's mother was named Letitia, or Joy, as indicating the dawn; and it is pointed out that Apollo's mother was called Λητώ by the Greeks and Latona by the Romans. "The word," says Pérez, "became Letitia in recent times, because Letitia is the substantive of the verb 'lætor' or of the obsolete 'læteo,' which meant 'to inspire joy.' " Napoleon and Letitia both being derived from the Greek mythology, it is next shown that the son of Letitia had three sisters, who must be recognized as the three Graces, the ornaments of the court of their brother Apollo. The modern Apollo, moreover, had four brothers, who are in reality the four seasons of the year: the spring, which rules over the flowers; the summer, which rules over the harvests; and the autumn, which rules over the fruits; while the fourth, who, un-

like the three others, was not a king, has a blank for his domain. This last, moreover, was called Prince of Canino, because Canino comes from "cani," signifying the white hairs of frosty old age, and suggesting winter. Napoleon put an end to revolution, even as Apollo destroyed the Python. This was Napoleon's as it was Apollo's first exploit. The great warrior of the nineteenth century is said to have had twelve marshals in active service at the head of his armies and four who remained inactive. The twelve active marshals are the twelve signs of the zodiac, while the four in non-activity are the four cardinal points. The story of the Russian campaign is simply the course of the sun, which after the vernal equinox seeks northern regions, but at the end of three months meets the northern tropic, which forces it to return south, following the sign of the Cancer, so called to express the retrograde movement of the sun. "On this basis," says Pérez, "was forged the imaginary expedition of Napoleon towards the north to Moscow, and the humiliating retreat by which it is said to have been followed." Finally, Napoleon is said to have come by sea from the East (from Egypt) to begin his dominion over France, and to have disappeared, after a reign of twelve years, in the western seas. This is all founded on the phenomena of sunrise and sunset and of the division of the day into twelve hours.

Whately, like Pérez, derives "Napoleon" from the Greek, and like him sees in "Bonaparte" nothing but a complimentary adjunct to his proper name. Whately also turns to account an argument which Pérez in a postscript to his ingenious little satire mentions only to put aside, apparently because there was no analogy between this argument and those employed by the author of 'L'Origine de tous les Cultes.' "We might," says Pérez in his postscript, "have invoked in support of our thesis a great number of royal ordinances of which the certain dates are in evident contradiction with the reign of the pretended Napoleon; but we had reasons for not making use of them."

"That there have been numerous bloody wars with France under the Bourbons," writes Whately (p. 43 of first edition), "we are well assured, and we are now told that France is governed by a Bourbon king of the name of Lewis, who professes to be in the twenty-third year of his reign." For the Bourbons contended quite seriously that the Emperor Napoleon had "never existed"; and Louis XVIII. on ascending the throne dated his first proclamation (1814) from the nineteenth year of his reign.

Pérez's brief parody of Dupuis's 'Origine de tous les Cultes' has never been published in English, nor is the original to be found in the library of the British Museum. Dupuis, on the other hand, seems to have been twice translated. One version of his work is called 'Christianity: a Form of the Great Solar Myth,' the other 'Was Christ a Person or the Sun? an Argument from Dupuis to show that Christianity had its Origin in Sun-Worship.'

H. SUTHERLAND EDWARDS.

## THE BIOGRAPHY OF SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE.

9, Paternoster Row, April 7, 1885.

MR. WOLF, in replying to our letter of the 21st ult., quotes a number of particulars mentioned in our biography of Sir Moses Montefiore, which he contends could not have been obtained by our author otherwise than from his book. We cannot occupy the columns of the *Athenæum* to go through these seriatim, but one or two examples may be given to show that Mr. Wolf's contention is incorrect. We may commence by stating that as Mr. Weston did not anticipate that any charge of plagiarism would arise out of his book, he did not preserve his original notes after the proof-sheets were passed. It is, therefore, difficult for him now to collate all his authorities and give the exact source from which

he procured each statement made in his book. Mr. Wolf gives in parallel columns the opening paragraph of his work and ours, and implies that the one is simply an abridgment of the other. In opposition to this we may state that the greater portion of the facts upon which the first paragraph of our book is based were taken from the weekly edition of the *Times* issued October 26th, 1883. We subjoin the extract from our book and also the statements in the *Times* from which the same was principally derived:—

*Partridge.* "In the October of 1784 a small party of travellers from England were staying at a house in the Via Reale, Leghorn, whither they had come upon a commercial enterprise. The party comprised a lady, her husband, and her brother, otherwise Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Elias Montefiore, and Moses Mocatta. Joseph Montefiore, like his father before him, was a London merchant dealing in Italian goods, and he had come to Leghorn to purchase straw-bonnets, bringing his young wife and her brother with him. The most interesting event during their stay in the Italian city occurred on the 24th of the same month, when Mrs. Montefiore presented her husband with a son—venerated to-day throughout the length and breadth of the civilized world—and even beyond it—as the large-hearted centurion Sir Moses Haim Montefiore."

It will be seen from the foregoing that, with one slight exception, the whole of the materials for the first paragraph of our book are supplied by the *Times*, quite independent of Mr. Wolf's book. The slight exception is the name of the street, "Via Reale."

Mr. Wolf also states that there are references to the apprenticeship of the brothers Montefiore, to their *début* on the Stock Exchange, &c., which never appeared in print before his book was published. To follow Mr. Wolf into the details of these matters would unduly burden the pages of the paper giving insertion to these letters; it may suffice to refer readers interested in this controversy to the *Times* articles, October 26th and November 9th, 1883, where they will find many of the particulars which Mr. Wolf states were never published prior to the appearance of his book.

With an allusion to one further incident cited against us we close this letter, and, on our part, this controversy. Mr. Wolf says: "Again, I spoke of Princess Victoria living during a certain year at Townley House, Ramsgate, instead of Pyrmont, Broadstairs." In reference to this the fact of the Princess Victoria's residence is mentioned by both Messrs. Sebag and Davis. The former, speaking from personal recollection of the circumstance, says Ramsgate, the latter Broadstairs. In this conflict of evidence reference was made to Mr. Wolf's work, and Ramsgate, with the name of the house, inserted in our volume. S. W. PARTRIDGE & CO.

#### 'A PERILOUS SECRET.'

Savage Club, April 7, 1885.

BUT for comments made elsewhere I would not trespass upon your valuable space.

In your criticism last week upon 'A Perilous Secret,' announced as the last work written by Charles Reade, you say it "is far superior to the rest of his later novels. The story is most ingeniously intricate. It is one thing to contrive a clever plot, but a very different thing to make the reader remember the points without effort. In 'A Perilous Secret' both these tasks are performed with ease and precision. It is not often one finds a story of such elaborate contrivance told with such complete perspicuity. This story, moreover, is comparatively free from the eccentricities with which Charles Reade sometimes amused and always irritated readers of his later works."

Will you permit me to say that the novel 'A Perilous Secret' is an amplification of the Adelphi drama of 'Love and Money,' written by Charles Reade and myself—that the story was invented and completely constructed by me alone and before Charles Reade ever saw it, or even heard of it?

Were it not that the executors or representatives of the late Charles Reade and the publishers of 'A Perilous Secret' have, for reasons which are certainly not sufficiently clear to me, elected to omit my name from the title-page, I would not trouble you with this explanation.

HENRY PETTIT.

#### A DOMESDAY BOOK SOCIETY.

THE year 1886 will bring with it the eight hundredth anniversary of the completion of the Domesday Book, a fact which may be regarded as a favourable opportunity of bringing that literary relic, the fountain head of almost all our national topographical and biographical researches, very prominently before the world of antiquaries. It is, perhaps, to be regretted that as the ancient MSS. of Domesday Book are at present preserved in the hands of several public and corporate authorities, the rules of some among which will not permit of the temporary loan of MSS., we shall probably be unable to witness some such exhibition of the Domesday manuscripts as, for example, the British Museum has made recently with considerable success in connexion with Wycliffe and Luther.

I would draw the attention of the readers of the *Athenæum* to the unsatisfactory condition of the bibliography of Domesday, looked at not only from a popular, but from a scientific standpoint, notwithstanding that the paramount value of the book is universally acknowledged; and to the not infrequent ignorance shown as to the true character of the contents of the MS., which appears to arise in a great measure from taking in too literal a signification the sensational statement found in the 'Anglo-Saxon Chronicle' at the notice of events in A.D. 1085: "So very narrowly he [William I.] caused it [the land] to be traced out, that there was not one single hide, nor one yard of land, nor even—it is shame to tell, though it seemed to him no shame to do—an ox, nor a cow, nor a swine, was left, that was not set down in his writ" (Thorpe's translation, M. Rolls Series). The necessity of a handy-volume series of Domesday is every day more apparent, and such a uniform edition as a small body of editors could produce very conveniently, and, comparatively speaking, quickly, could be issued in an octavo form, county by county, or in natural groups of counties (for the Domesday seems to have been prepared according to some system of grouping four or five counties in a batch), at regular intervals. This would be best accomplished by the formation of a society, conducted much in the same way as, let us say, the Hakluyt Society, which issues two octavo volumes yearly to its members for a guinea subscription.

The MSS. which bear directly on the Domesday Book and require to be taken into account either for collation or as parallel texts are not very numerous. They may be grouped into three classes—1. Original returns; 2. Domesday Book proper; 3. Abridged Domesday.

1. Of the first class we have (i.) the "Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigieensis," or original return made by the *juratores* of the county of Cambridge in obedience to the royal mandate. This is preserved among the Cottonian MSS. in the British Museum, Tiberius A. vi. It was edited by Mr. N. E. S. A. Hamilton for the Royal Society of Literature in 1876, having been until that time overlooked. How Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy and Sir Henry Ellis overlooked this important MS. is difficult to understand. We have also (ii.) the "Exon" Domesday, with the concomitant "Gheld Inquest" of 1084, so called because of its belong-

ing to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, containing the original returns for the group of five south-western counties—Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall—printed by Ellis in folio, 1816, for the Record Commissioners.

2. The Exchequer Domesday Book proper is, as all know, in the Record Office. It was printed in 2 vols. folio by the Record Commission in 1783, now rare and of high price; facsimiles in photozincography (a process utterly unsuited to the production of MSS. in facsimile) have been published; and several editions (not uniform, and for the most part cumbersome) of separate counties, as well as translations, have appeared from time to time—such as, for example, Mr. W. Beamont's 'Cheshire and Lancashire,' of which a second edition was brought out in 1882. This, by the way, is one of the best of its kind.

3. Of abridged and imperfect Domesday there are (i.) a copy formerly preserved in the office of the King's Remembrancer of the Exchequer; (ii.) another formerly in the Chapter House (these—now in the Record Office—I believe were unknown to Ellis, and, although abridgments, their variant forms and phrases deserve collation with the Exchequer Domesday); (iii.) a MS. in the Arundel Library in the British Museum, No. 153; (iv.) an early copy of the Kent Survey, in form of a roll, now cut up into leaves and inlaid in the Cottonian MS. Vitellius C. viii.; and perhaps others of which at present I have not any knowledge.

I do not propose to make any category of those invaluable treatises such as Ellis's 'Introduction to the Study of Domesday' and the late Rev. R. W. Eyton's 'Domesday Studies,' the part publication of which, if no copyrights were infringed, might well be included in the scope of the society I propose to establish.

WALTER DE GRAY BIRCH.

#### MR. R. GRANT WHITE.

WE greatly regret to hear of the death of Mr. R. Grant White, at the age of sixty-four. A Yankee of the Yankees, as he was fond of boasting, he was bred to the law, but he became a contributor to the *New York Courier* as early as 1845, and edited that journal from 1854 to 1859. In 1860 he started the *World*, but left it in 1861. During the Civil War he was the New York correspondent of the *Spectator*. In 1853 he began to make his *début* as a Shakespearean critic by contributing to *Putnam's Monthly* some articles on Mr. Collier's folio. In 1857-9 he issued an edition of Shakespeare, and last year he edited another. Among his best-known books are his two volumes on the English language, 'Every Day English' and 'Words and their Uses,' and a work called 'England Without and Within,' which was little short of a panegyric. It was the result of a visit to this country, and consisted of papers that had appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly*. In 1881 he published an 'American View of the Copyright Question.' One of his last books was a tale called 'The Fate of Mansfield Humphreys.' Mr. White was a vigorous writer, possessing an abundant knowledge of English literature, and an independent thinker, and many visitors to New York were indebted to him for an hospitable reception. As a musical critic he was held in high esteem in the States, and some two or three years ago he announced that he was going to publish his musical recollections, but, so far as we know, the book never appeared.

#### Literary Gossip.

THE Dean of Chichester has in the press what he styles 'Ten Lives of Good Men.' They are as follows: The Learned Divine (M. J. Routh); The Restorer of the Old Paths (Hugh James Rose); The Great Provost (Hawkins); The Remodeller of the Episcopate (Samuel Wilber-



force); The Humble Christian (R. L. Cotton); The Pious Librarian (H. O. Coxe); The Faithful Steward (R. Gresswell); The Christian Philosopher (Mansel); The Single-minded Bishop (Jacobson); and The Good Layman (C. L. Higgins). Mr. Murray is the publisher.

MR. EGMONT HAKE has finished the second and last volume of his 'Story of Chinese Gordon.' Messrs. Remington will publish it in a very few days. It includes a translation of General Gordon's impeachment and conviction of Zobeir Pasha, a document which has hitherto remained in the original Arabic.

THE third book of Lord Lytton's 'Glen-averil; or, the Metamorphoses,' is styled 'The Alps,' and will be issued by Mr. Murray in May.

MR. SWINBURNE's new tragedy, 'Marino Faliero,' is dedicated to Aurelio Saffi, the Italian patriot. This will indicate that the striking chapter of Venetian history upon which the drama is based has been treated in some measure politically. The chronicle, however, has been faithfully followed as to incidents.

MR. MURRAY announces the first part, for use in the lower forms, of 'The New Eton Latin Grammar,' which marks Eton's rejection of the Primer in any shape. It has been compiled by Mr. A. C. Ainger and Mr. H. G. Wintle. These gentlemen are also preparing 'A First Latin Exercise Book,' adapted to the grammar. Both books will be published early in September.

MR. LESLIE STEPHEN, in the lecture he gave last Saturday night at Toynbee Hall, Whitechapel, on Henry Fawcett, stated that he was making good progress with the biography of his friend, which, to judge from the lecture, will prove of exceptional interest. Prof. Seeley has lately given three lectures at Toynbee Hall on colonial history. The last was delivered on Wednesday.

THE committee of the Oxford Historical Society announce that the three books—the 'University Register,' vol. i.; Hearne's 'Collections,' vol. i.; and Mr. James Parker's 'Early Oxford History'—which ought to have been delivered to subscribers last year, are at length ready for distribution. Five hundred and two members have joined the Society, and if capably managed it has every prospect of becoming one of the most useful institutions of its kind. But it is essential to its success that there should be no recurrence of the delay in the issue of its publications which has characterized the first year of its existence.

MR. MURRAY promises the lectures on ecclesiastical history, including 'The Origin and Progress of the English Reformation from Wicliffe to the Great Rebellion,' delivered in the University of Dublin by the late Bishop of Killaloe. The book will be edited by the Rev. W. Fitzgerald and Dr. Quarry. A memoir of the author will be prefixed.

THE same publisher announces "a popular life" of General Sir Charles Napier, by the Hon. W. Napier Bruce.

PROF. JULIUS WELLHAUSEN'S 'Prolegomena to the History of Israel' has been translated into English under the author's supervision, and, with the addition of an

amplified reprint of his article "Israel" in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' will be published this month by Messrs. A. & C. Black. The preface is by Prof. W. Robertson Smith, who has assisted in superintending the work in its preparation for the press.

THE new translation of 'Don Quixote' by Mr. John Ormsby, of which we have already made mention, will be issued in four monthly volumes, the first of which is promised by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. for the 26th inst. In his introduction Mr. Ormsby states the reasons which induced him to make an entirely new translation of 'Don Quixote,' and gives a sketch of the life and works of Cervantes. The appendices to the translation will comprise, among other features, an alphabetical list of the proverbs introduced in the book; an account, critical and bibliographical, of the Spanish romances of chivalry; and a concise bibliography of 'Don Quixote' and its translations.

WE regret to hear of the death of General Sir James E. Alexander, of Westerton, N.B., whose name was familiar to English readers many years ago as a writer of books of travel in fields that were then less known than they now are. Fifty years ago he commanded an exploring expedition into the interior of South Africa on behalf of the Royal Geographical Society. One of his works, on salmon-fishing in Canada, was illustrated by Lady Alexander. At the time of his death the general had reached the age of eighty-two.

A PAPER of some interest to admirers of Robert Burns was read by a local antiquary at a recent meeting of the Dumfries Antiquarian Society, giving the contents of several wills bearing on "Lovely Polly Stewart" and her family. In one of these, the will of her aunt, Catherine Bacon (born Stewart), a sum of 10*l.* to purchase mourning, with the best silk cloak of the testatrix, and a sum of 5*l.* to each of her three sons by her first marriage, were bequeathed; but in the will of her father, who was a farmer and small landowner, made after her desertion of her second husband, provision is made for her sons, but none for herself. Some lines to this lady, written by the poet on the window of a Dumfries inn, are still to be seen.

THE death of the Dowager Baroness Ruthven this week, in her eighty-sixth year, has deprived Scotland of one of its most interesting and widely cultured ladies. Last year, as we mentioned at the time, she presented her valuable collection of Greek antiquities, which she had gathered in earlier life, to the Antiquarian Museum in Edinburgh.

MESSRS. T. & T. CLARK will shortly publish the first issue for the current year of their "Foreign Theological Library"—the second and concluding volume of Prof. Rübiger's 'Encyclopædia of Theology,' and Orelli's 'Old Testament Prophecy regarding the Consummation of the Kingdom of God.' Prof. Schürer's 'History of the Times of Christ' is in the press, and will form part of the second issue of this library. Prof. Lechler's 'History of the Apostolic and Post-Apostolic Times' is also in preparation. Lotze's 'Microcosmus,' the publication of which has been long delayed, is now well through the press and will shortly appear.

PROF. SALMON, of Dublin, is preparing 'An Introduction to the Study of the New Testament, and an Investigation into Modern Biblical Criticism, based on the most Recent Sources of Information.' Mr. Murray is the publisher.

THE three pages of the Bryennios manuscript, reproduced by photography and edited with notes by Mr. J. Rendel Harris, of the Johns Hopkins University, U.S., are now on the point of publication. They include the last verses of the Epistle of Barnabas, the superscription and opening of the first Epistle of Clement, the close of the second Epistle of Clement, the first verses of 'The Teaching of the Apostles,' the last verses of the Epistle of Ignatius to the Romans, &c.

MR. WM. PATERSON, the well-known Edinburgh bookseller, announces that he is about to retire from the bookselling business and devote himself entirely to that of publishing. In the course of a few weeks he leaves his old premises in Princes Street for St. Andrew Square.

MR. W. E. LAYTON, curate of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, intends to do for Suffolk what has been done for Bedfordshire, by extracting from the pages of the *Gentleman's Magazine* the reference to Suffolk. He will not attempt to encroach on the plan laid down by the editor of the "Gentleman's Magazine Library," as all he does is to take the local notices from the *Magazine*, and give what information upon them he has been able to collect from the Davy Collection in the British Museum, the Jermyn Collection at Bury, the Fitch MSS. in the Ipswich Museum, the Court Books of the Ipswich Corporation, and the library of Mr. F. C. Brooke, of Ufford, Woodbridge. The first part, dealing with 1731, will be put to press as soon as the requisite number of subscribers is obtained.

A STORY of the Thames, entitled 'Like Lost Sheep,' by the author of 'The Wild Warringtons,' will be published shortly in three volumes by Messrs. Ward & Downey.

THE French papers announce the death of M. Désiré Ravel, Conservateur Honoraire de la Bibliothèque Nationale. It was he who discovered in Switzerland inedited writings by J. J. Rousseau, which he published under the title of 'J. J. Rousseau, ses Amis et ses Ennemis.'

THE Bryn Mawr College for Women, New Jersey, will be opened in September next. The course of studies will be similar to that pursued at Johns Hopkins University. Excellent arrangements are to be made for pupils. The cost of the building is 40,000*l.*, and in addition to providing this sum, the founder, the late Dr. Joseph W. Taylor, of Burlington, has endowed the institution with 160,000*l.*

PROFS. KAN, of Amsterdam, and Van der Lith, of Leyden, have started a *Revue Coloniale Internationale*, the first number of which will appear on July 1st. It will be a piebald affair; articles may be written in Dutch, English, French, or German. It would have been wiser to follow Prof. de Gubernatis's example, and choose French as the language of the magazine.

WE are very glad to learn that we may shortly expect to receive from India the first

part of the Bihári and English dictionary, which has been for some years in preparation by Dr. Hoernle, the Philological Secretary of the Bengal Asiatic Society, and Mr. G. A. Grierson, B.C.S. This dictionary will embrace the four principal dialects of the Bihári language, viz., the Baiswári, Bhojpúri, Mágadhi, and Maithilí, the last having a literature dating from the fourteenth century, and so being entitled as the most highly developed to be considered the standard. This work should throw a great deal of new light on the comparative philology of the Gaudian languages. The two editors are so well known to scholars by their previous labours in this field that we look forward with great interest to the appearance of the work. Every meaning given is to be exemplified as far as possible by some quotation from the literature or some colloquial illustration; and every word will be compared with its cognate forms in the other Gaudian languages, and its derivation attempted from Prákrit, Páli, and Sanskrit.

THE death is announced of Miss Susan Warner, the author of 'The Wide, Wide World' and 'Queechy,' two tales extremely popular at one time, both in America and in this country. Miss Warner was born at New York in 1818.

MR. COWELL, of the Liverpool Free Public Library, writes:—

"In your impression of last Saturday you refer to our thirty-second annual report, and to the introduction of the electric light in this library. Perhaps you will permit me to say that the word 'extended' would better apply to our case than 'introduced,' as our principal book and reading room—the Picton Reading-Room—has been lighted by electricity during the last five years. So satisfied were the committee of this library of its value that eighteen months ago they had it also extended to the principal book-room of the Brown Library, and we are now having it further extended to our Rotunda Lecture Hall, the Brown Reading-Room, and several other parts of this library. There is no difference of opinion among the staff here as to the comfort and healthiness of electricity compared with gas, and the steady temperature it preserves must prove in time greatly to the advantage of the bindings of our books."

## SCIENCE

*Report on the Scientific Results of the Voyage of H.M.S. Challenger.—Zoology. Vols. X. and XI. (Published by Order of Her Majesty's Government.)*

DR. RUDOLPH BERG, of Copenhagen, the author of the first monograph of the five contained in the tenth volume, is well known as the highest authority on the nudibranchiate Mollusca, to the study of the anatomy of which he has devoted his life. The plates illustrating his memoir are perhaps less intelligible to any one but the professed comparative anatomist than any others in the whole Challenger work, for they relate almost exclusively to internal anatomical details. The outside forms of soft sea-slugs cannot be faithfully reproduced from shrunken spirit specimens, and hence the author, following his usual course, figures only the viscera. The most remarkable new form, however, obtained, *Bathydoris abyssorum*, the largest known sea-

slug, intermediate between the Dorididae and Tritonidae, is figured in outline in two views. It was more than six inches long when fresh, and very broad and plump, with a thick transparent gelatinous body wall and bright orange gills. It came from a depth of 2,425 fathoms. The Nudibranchiata are mostly inhabitants of shallow water, being rare in the deep sea. The Challenger hence brought home only twenty-four species altogether.

Dr. L. von Graff, Professor of Zoology in the College of Forestry at Aschaffenburg, in Bavaria, reports on the Myzostomida—most curious disc-shaped degenerate annelids, which are parasitic on crinoids. A most important discovery, partly due to the observations of the late Von Willemoes Suhm, one of the members of the scientific staff of the Challenger expedition, is that of the existence of the cysticolous Myzostomida. These parasites inhabit cysts of various forms, which are like plant galls in that they are malformations of the tissues of the host produced by the irritation of the parasite during the progress of growth. In these cysts the Myzostomida occur in pairs, a male and female together, the male being from fifty to a hundred times smaller than the female. Prof. Graff has discovered cysts on fossil palæozoic crinoids, which, from their peculiar form, must have been produced by Myzostomida, and has thus proved that this group of parasites is of very great antiquity.

The next monograph contains the anatomical results obtained by Dr. P. P. C. Hoek from his investigation of the Cirripedia, and forms a sequel to his memoir embodying the systematic account of the barnacles, already noticed here. From the point of view of the morphologist the present part is the more interesting. Most important are the researches of the author regarding the structure of the curious minute complemental males in the genus *Scalpellum*. The results were arrived at mainly by comparing the males with a cypris larva found attached to the hermaphrodite form between two fully grown males, and obviously destined to become a male itself by degeneration. The pair of openings at the bases of the outer maxillæ of Cirripedia, which Darwin provisionally called olfactory organs, are shown to be a pair of segment organs or nephridia, the tubes in connexion with them having each a funnel-shaped opening into the body cavity. They may possibly prove homogeneous with the shell glands of the phyllopods and copepods, although these have no celomic openings, and if so will be of much importance in determining the homologies of the limbs in copepods and cirripeds. The bodies designated by Darwin as the true ovaria are in reality a pair of gastric glands with ducts opening into the stomach. The eye of *Lepas* is the remains of the median eye of the nauplius larva. In the adult it is so placed that apparently no ray of light can reach it, yet it is furnished with a special nerve ganglion. Dr. Hoek concludes from his researches on the oviducts, which open at the bases of the first pair of cirri, that these organs represent a second pair of nephridia specially modified to perform an oviducal function.

An elaborate memoir on the human crania obtained during the voyage, by

Prof. Turner, of Edinburgh, follows. The number of skulls obtained was but small, but the author has examined each instance in the light of all previously published observations, and in the case of three Australian skulls, for example, was able to use for comparison thirty-five additional specimens of his own. Fuegian skulls are apparently rarer in museums than those of any other savage race. The Challenger brought home four, and only nine others have come into the hands of cranio-logists. The skulls of the Admiralty Islanders—the most interesting and least investigated savage race visited by the expedition—prove, as was to be expected, to have well-marked Melanesian features, corresponding closely with those of Papuans, being dolichocephalic with the height greater than the breadth. A large series of thirty-seven skulls of Sandwich Islanders showed—contrary to what would be expected in a race belonging to an isolated group of islands, and with a special and peculiar culture obviously the result of long isolation—very marked differences in dimensions: eleven were brachycephalic, fifteen dolichocephalic, and eleven mesaticephalic, i.e., between the two extremes. The author is inclined to regard this condition, which is paralleled in the case of the Marquesas Islanders, as due to the presence of a Melanesian element in addition to the Polynesian.

The last memoir in this volume is Mr. George Busk's report on the Polyzoa: Part I., the Cheilostomata. The second part, as the editor states, is promised shortly. The main mass of the Polyzoa collected belong to the Cheilostomata, and very few species of Cyclostomata and Ctenostomata remain to be described in the second part, which will, no doubt, be largely occupied by general considerations and conclusions as to the geographical and bathymetrical distribution of the species. In all, 280 species of Cheilostomata were obtained, of which 170 are here described as new. The work is most valuable as coming from the highest authority on the Polyzoa, and especially because every one of the figures on the thirty-six crowded plates and all the woodcuts in the text have been beautifully drawn by his own hand. He is much to be congratulated on the result of his prolonged investigations. One of the most remarkable features characterizing the deep-sea Cheilostomata is the presence of numerous radical fibrillæ, by which the stocks are rooted to the bottom, each fibrilla being adherent at its tip to a single globigerina or other foraminiferous shell. These radical fibres are jointed, and evidently homologous with series of zoecia modified for the special purpose. In *Bugula reticulata*, a new deep-sea form, and others allied to it, the main branches of the colony are wide apart, but are connected at intervals by transverse delicate jointed tubes, evidently homologous with the radical fibres and likewise modified zoecia. The most remarkable polyzoan, from a morphological point of view, obtained by the expedition, is *Cephalodiscus*, an ally of *Rhabdopleura*, but with six pairs of branchial arms, instead of a single pair, and an eye, in the adult condition. It is from the Straits of Magellan, and a preliminary account of its structure has been published



by Prof. McIntosh. Possibly it and *Rhabdopleura* may, however, when their development is known, have to be separated from the Polyzoa altogether.

At the end of the volume is inserted a map of the world with the Challenger's track marked, as well as the positions of all the dredging and trawling stations—a most useful addition to the work. But through oversight no mention of the existence of this map is made either in the list of contents of the volume or in the preface.

Vol. xi. contains three memoirs. The first is on the Ceratosa, or the horny sponges allied to the common washing sponge, by Mr. Poléjaeff, of the University of Odessa, whose report on the calcareous sponges appeared in a former volume of the present series. The horny sponges do not belong to the deep-sea fauna, and the Challenger expedition, which had but little time to devote to shallow-water collecting, brought home only thirty-seven species, twenty-one of which prove to be new. The principal part of the memoir consists of an able discussion of the organization of the Ceratosa and of the relative value of the various items of structure in their classification. The author writes very gloomily of the prospects of attaining anything like a satisfactory natural system of classification in these little-differentiated forms. Palæontology will probably not yield much evidence as to their genetic connexion, as the group seems to be of very recent origin. As far as its embryology is known, the data are monotonous and unpromising. Anatomy and histology are often quite powerless as criteria in the case of the Ceratosa to prove whether this or that anatomical peculiarity is constant or merely accidental. Comparative physiology—the “new science” which, according to the author, has supplanted embryology as the “watchword of the day”—may prove particularly welcome in the case of the Ceratosa, “where almost all other lines of research are of no avail.” He considers the horny sponges as derived from sponges with siliceous skeletons, in which the substance cementing these spicules together has gradually increased, and eventually taken on itself the entire skeletal function, ousting the spicules altogether. He is convinced that the organisms shaped like skipping-ropes, and known as “Fibrillen,” or filaments, long considered as a constituent part of the skeleton of certain forms and as characteristic of certain genera, are in reality parasites, an opinion held for many years by Carter; and since their presence, as F. E. Schulze has shown, does not modify the anatomical or histological structure of the sponges which contain them, he ridicules the position assumed by that most distinguished of all authorities on sponges, who, admitting the filaments to be independent organisms, nevertheless ascribes to their presence in certain Ceratosa a generic and even family character. As well might naturalists, he urges, subdivide the species *Homo* into two families, characterized by the presence or absence of *Tenia solium*.

The report on the Crinoidea by Dr. P. Herbert Carpenter will undoubtedly rank as one of the most important of the whole Challenger series. The present instalment, part i., deals with the general morphology of the group, and contains

systematic descriptions of the stalked crinoids. It consists of over 440 pages of letterpress and 68 plates. It presents the results of the author's unbroken researches on this subject during the last nine years. It is a most masterly piece of work, thoroughly good throughout, full of new facts and ideas and important deductions drawn from his own work and that of all other investigators in the same line, and will at once vindicate the claim, which he has for some years past been establishing, to first rank amongst authorities on Echinodermata. It is immensely to his credit that he should have found it possible to effect so much in the way of original research in the intervals of his duties as a science master at Eton. In the preface he gracefully acknowledges his obligations to his father, Dr. W. B. Carpenter, the importance of whose researches in the structure of the crinoids is well known to all morphologists, and whose remarkable discovery of the true nervous system in the class, the correctness of which was long doubted even by most distinguished morphologists, has lately received complete confirmation from numerous sources.

The memoir commences with a long and most valuable account of the morphology of the Crinoidea generally, followed by an account of the habits of the recent forms, their geographical and bathymetrical range, the relations between neocrinoids and palæocrinoids, and similar topics. All are full of interest, but perhaps the discussion of the relations of the more recent to the ancient forms—an intricate and difficult subject—is most remarkable and most fully brings out the knowledge and ability of the author. To the more modern forms he applies his own term “neocrinoids,” instead of the one common in text-books, Articulata, which is based on an erroneous conception of Johannes Müller; and he opposes this term to that of “palæocrinoids,” instead of to Tesselata. He regards “the neocrinoids as constituting a group or sub-class which is distinctly marked off from its palæozoic predecessors.” The most important character relied on in differentiating the two groups is the structure of the calyx, and especially the disturbance of its pentamerous symmetry in the case of the palæocrinoids by the modification of the plates on the anal side. In the neocrinoids the calyx is regularly pentamerous. Most interesting is the account of the structure and homologies of the vault or dome, “tegmen calycis,” which in many palæocrinoids roofs over the mouth and entire ventral surface, and has been supposed to be characteristic of the whole group. This dome is most fully developed in Actinocrinidæ. At its apex, immediately over the mouth, lies invariably in the Actinocrinidæ a single central plate, termed by the author the orocentral, and this is immediately surrounded by a ring of plates which are the homologues of the five oral plates which, as is well known, survive in certain adult recent neocrinoids and in the larval forms of some in which they are absent in the adult. These orals are the actual representatives of the basals, being developed, as shown by Götte, round the left vaso-peritoneal tube of the larva, just as the basals are developed round the right tube. The orocentral plate

corresponds with the centrodorsal. In the Actinocrinidæ and other palæocrinoids numerous additional plates are developed to support the dome, but in some members of the group, such as *Haplocrinus*, there are only the orocentral plate and the five orals present, so that the condition is simply that of an unopened neocrinoid larva, except that in the neocrinoids the orocentral appears to have disappeared entirely. In the palæozoic *Coccocrinus* there were present simply five large oral plates with open radial slits between them and an open unobstructed mouth in the centre, just as in *Holopus*. The presence of the dome is not, therefore, a criterion by which palæocrinoids can be defined. The determination of the true nature of this structure is one of the most brilliant of the author's achievements. It is a curious fact that the particular recent crinoid of all those dredged by the Challenger which shows the most marked affinities with the palæocrinoids is not a stalked form, but one of the Comatulidæ, *Thaumatoerinus*. It has in the adult state five large and dense oral plates, entirely covering the peristome. Its basal plates are visible externally, not being transformed into a rosette plate. Its radial plates are separated by large interradials, and it has an anal cone covered with plates—all palæocrinoid characters, and certainly here in survival, and not atavistic.

The volume closes with an instalment of Mr. F. E. Beddard's report on the isopodous Crustacea, relating to the genus *Serolis*, which comprises a series of forms which most curiously resemble trilobites. So like are they to trilobites in general appearance that many a naturalist of the highest distinction has felt his heart beat on first finding them in the contents of a deep-sea dredge. It used to be believed that the genus was entirely confined to the southern hemisphere, but one species has lately been discovered as far north as San Diego, in California. There are a good many animals which thus extend from southwards north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean, but do not do so in the Atlantic Ocean, notably the albatross and the sea-lion. Mr. Beddard, who is Professor to the Zoological Society of London, has obviously executed his work with great care. We hope to refer again to it in connexion with his further account of the Isopoda when it appears.

*London and Provincial Water Supplies, with the Latest Statistics of Metropolitan and Provincial Waterworks.* By Arthur Silverthorne, Assoc. M.Inst.C.E. (Crooby Lockwood & Co.)—Mr. Silverthorne has produced a work of much value, which reflects unusual credit on the patient toil of the author. He has collected, from the various companies and local authorities concerned, the statistics of eighty of the more important water enterprises of the country, and has put his information in a clear tabular form, illustrating the subject by the juxtaposition, in a like form, of the better known statistics of the water companies of the metropolis. At how great an expenditure of time and money he has produced this useful book those only can form any idea who have sought to obtain the information now made accessible in the case of any one of the eighty towns in question. The information that lay ready to the hand of a writer on this important subject is of the scantiest nature. As to London, indeed, the returns published by the Board of Trade are admirable, and there is an ‘Analysis of the Accounts of the

London Water Companies,' by Alfred Lass, published by Mr. King, of Bolt Court, Fleet Street, which leaves nothing to be desired as to the finance of these great undertakings. As to the great provincial cities of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, and Bradford, there exist two House of Commons Returns (397, 1882, and 109, 1883) which give, in replies to thirteen questions, tolerably full information as to the accounts of the water supplies of those places for the year 1881. As to the remaining urban districts, there is a Return of the House of Commons on Urban Water Supply, dated July 3rd, 1879, containing replies—of a sort—to thirteen questions, from a number of places which, roughly counted in the index to the returns, amount to about 2,800. The private companies, however, generally declined to answer these queries; and in cases where no objection was made, the details actually tabulated fall very far short of the full precision of the statistics of Mr. Silverthorne. The work has further value as being the first contribution to standard literature which has brought before the world the important fact that the cost of the water supply of England has increased, is increasing, and will continue to increase with the increase of the population. Not that Mr. Silverthorne states this as a proposition. But to those who have studied the subject the data that he has collected form so many additional illustrations of a fact of which they were already aware. The cost of living in England, so far as can be ascertained by returns either of gross rental or of rateable value, increases steadily in a ratio a little exceeding that of the increase of the density of the population. In this ratio town districts are more costly than country districts, and both town and country districts in 1881 had become more costly than the same districts in 1871. That the cost of water supply must increase in a like ratio when it is made, as is usually the case, to depend on the rateable value of the houses supplied, is obvious. What is, perhaps, less obvious, but not less true, is that however the cost is determined, the increase will be not at a lower, and in the case of very large places may be at a much higher, ratio than the other rates. It is satisfactory to find, among the great cities of the island, that Glasgow now obtains from Loch Katrine a supply of water at a cost as low as—indeed, a trifle lower than—that prevailing at the cheapest place in the United States, the great city of Chicago, situated on the borders of Lake Michigan, viz., 10¢. per million gallons. But the Glasgow supply reaches the extravagant amount of fifty-two gallons per head per diem; and with a less wasteful supply the cost per million gallons would be higher. Dublin and Edinburgh are also exceptionally fortunate in their sources of supply, the first from the river Vartry, and the second from the Pentland and Moorfoot Hills. Their prices for water in 1882-83 were respectively 16½¢. and 17½¢. per million gallons. These, however, are quite exceptional cases, depending on the physical conditions of the localities. The water supply of London, in proportion to rateable value, taking the average of its eight great water provinces, is considerably lower than that of any other English town of the first magnitude; and the cost of works, whether calculated per head or per million gallons of supply, is also materially lower than in any of those towns. The working charges of the London companies vary in very close accordance with the variation in the levels of the districts supplied and with the demand for pumping power. But with all these advantages to the consumers, there can be no doubt that the cost of the London water supply will follow the law that is generally prevalent, and rise with the increase of the population. Recent organized litigation has had the natural result of raising the charges and nett incomes of several of the companies. Not one of the schemes for competitive supply that have been produced within the last dozen years

could have failed, if carried out, to impose a much heavier burden on the metropolitan water consumers than they now bear. The best mode of keeping down the annual increase of the London water rates to the minimum is the establishment, between the companies and their customers, of a co-operative partnership of the same nature as that which is producing such satisfactory results in lowering the price of gas.

## GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW & Co. will publish in a short time the English edition of 'The Rescue of Greely,' by Commander W. S. Schley, U.S.N., commanding the relief expedition of 1884. The work will form an octavo volume of about 300 pages, with four maps and many illustrations, from photographs taken during the voyage.

The April number of the *Proceedings* of the Royal Geographical Society contains an interesting and well-written article by Mr. Delmar Morgan on the new Free State of the Congo, with a map showing its approximate area and its position with reference to the neighbouring possessions of France and Portugal. A short article by M. Paul Lessar on the Kara-kum or Desert of Turkomania claims attention on account of the political and scientific authority of the writer; but the article is very like its own subject-matter, terribly dry and heavy to read. The other paper deserving mention is Mr. J. H. Kerry-Nicholls's account of his exploration of the King Country, New Zealand, in the course of which over 600 miles of ground were covered, and twenty-five rivers and two small lakes, not previously shown on the maps, were discovered; the sources of four of the principal rivers of the colony were traced. Mount Ruapehu (9,000 feet), the highest peak of the North Island, was ascended, over one hundred points were fixed in altitude, and the configuration of a large part of the island was determined, besides geological and botanical collections being obtained—a harvest of results most creditable to Mr. Kerry-Nicholls and valuable to science.

The Intelligence branch of the War Office have just brought out a convenient reprint by photozincography of a portion of General J. T. Walker's map of Turkistan, comprising the whole of Afghanistan, and extending from Lake Victoria to Meshed east and west, and from Samarkand to Jacobabad north and south. Recent information has been incorporated so as to make the debated territory north of Herat more fully and accurately delineated than it is on most maps. There are, however, a few blemishes that still catch the eye, e.g., the Salor Turcomans are placed to the south of the Sariks, whereas it is the latter that are Afghan subjects, the former being claimed by Russia. A few names of places, such as Sari Yaz, Gumesli, &c., are not printed quite accurately. The northern boundary of Afghanistan is drawn on the map from Kwaja Saleh to Sarakhs. *Apropos* of Kwaja Saleh, it may not be out of place to mention that that distant post was visited a few weeks since by Capt. Peacocke, R.E., and other officers dispatched thither by Sir P. Lumsden. Their sketches, the first probably ever made of that part of the Oxus river, were reproduced in the *Illustrated London News*, where various interesting views of the points so keenly contested by Russia and England may also be seen. An excellent letter descriptive of the survey up to the Oxus, and giving particulars regarding the Turcomans important at the present crisis, appeared in Thursday's *Standard*.

Whilst Dr. Lenz will go up the Congo to reach the Welle and the Europeans still living in the forsaken equatorial provinces of Egypt, Dr. Fischer is preparing to start for the same goal from the east coast by way of Uganda. These two expeditions, if successful, cannot fail to result in important geographical discoveries. Dr. Lenz will be able to inform us whether the Welle

or Bomokandi is a tributary of the Congo or flows to Lake Tsad, as asserted by Dr. Junker on native information, whilst Dr. Fischer may succeed in obtaining definite information of Stanley's Muta Nzige and of the country lying between it and the Albert Nyanza.

Capt. Cecchi's proposed ascent of the Jub and subsequent journey to Kafa hardly promise much success, for the brotherhood of the Snusai is powerful along that river, and its hostility to European travellers is well known. Mr. Denhardt, who took Kismayu, to the south of the Jub, for his starting-point, has a much better chance of success, for a couple of days' journey will land him among the Bwori Galla, who are still heathen.

Signor Franzoj, who recently brought home Chiarini's remains from Ghera, is to return to Southern Abyssinia as a geographical explorer. We very much doubt whether he is qualified for that task. The Italians have of recent years travelled much in Africa, but up till now we look in vain for adequate scientific results.

*Die Handelsverhältnisse Persiens*, von F. Stölze und F. C. Andreas, published as a supplement to *Petermann's Mittheilungen*, is a most valuable contribution to the commercial and political geography of a country which just now occupies a very prominent place in public discussions. The authors lived and travelled in Persia between 1874 and 1881, and although their work is in the main a compilation, it has largely profited by this residence in the country. The subject is dealt with under the following heads: Physical geography, climate, and products; articles of importation; post and telegraphy; measures, weights, and coins; trade usages; roads; custom-houses; commerce of Persia; European commercial relations with Persia; ambassadors and consuls; opening up of Persia to the world's commerce; and the commercial treaty between Germany and Persia. An appendix contains statistics on the trade of the principal places. The 'Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls' are largely quoted.

'Letts's Popular Atlas,' a revised edition of the old maps of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, is now publishing in parts of four maps each. We cannot say that the revision has been made with much care.

Mr. James Wyld sends us a clearly engraved map of the 'Country from Suakim to Berber,' based on the maps of the Intelligence Department, and showing the line of the proposed railway.

We are also in receipt of 'Bacon's Large-Print Map of Egyptian Sudan,' consisting of a general and of four inset maps. As a proof of the carelessness with which "war maps" are prepared, we may instance the fact that whilst on the general map Berber and el Mekherif are shown as distinct places about five miles apart, they are treated as identical on one of the inset maps.

Signor M. Maroni sends us his biographical and bibliographical essay on Grazioso Benincasa, the cartographer of Ancona, whose charts were drawn between 1435 and 1482. The essay is reprinted from the *Annuario del R. Istituto Tecnico* of Ancona, and is interesting. It is curious that bibliographers, as a rule, give the dimensions of a map, but not its scale, which it is far more essential to know.

With part i. of 'Egypt: Descriptive, Historical, and Picturesque,' to be published by Messrs. Cassell & Co. on the 27th inst., a map of Egypt and the Soudan will be issued, which has been constructed by Mr. F. Weller. Special attention is given to the districts which are at present the scene of British military operations.

## SOCIETIES.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—March 25.—Mr. J. Haynes in the chair.—Mr. Percy W. Ames read a paper 'On the Nature of Thought as considered from Physiological Points of View,' in which he advocated the Positive method as the most

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## Science Gossip.

An English edition of 'The Vegetable Garden; or, the Edible Vegetables, Salads, and Herbs cultivated in Europe and America,' by MM. Vilmorin and Andrieux, is announced by Mr. Murray to be published under the direction of Mr. W. Robinson, editor of the *Garden*.

MESSRS. PALMER & HOWE, of Manchester, have in preparation a new work by Mr. Leo H. Grindon, author of the 'Shakspeare Flora,' 'Lancashire, Historical and Descriptive,' &c. It will be entitled 'Fruits and Fruit Trees, Home and Foreign; with Descriptions, Histories, and other Particulars.' It will be published by subscription.

KARL VON SIEBOLD, the Professor of Zoology at Munich, died on Tuesday at the age of eighty-one.

MR. EDWARD MAWLEY sends his *Weather for 1884*, being his sixth issue of that publication, which is to be, as he informs us, the last of the series, owing to his leaving the neighbourhood of London. This weather record is so interesting and really so useful that we hope the system will be continued, if not by Mr. Mawley, by some equally competent and careful meteorological observer.

M. A. RICHE has presented a report to the Council of Hygiene of the Department of the Seine, in which he states that vaseline should not be used for alimentary purposes, as it is injurious to health. This substance has been recommended for use in pastry, as it is said to show no tendency to become rancid; this statement is not strictly true.

THE City and Guilds Institute announce that the technological examinations will be held at the different centres on the 20th of May next. The programme, containing the syllabus of each subject, can be obtained from the secretary, Gresham College, E.C.

MR. HORSBURGH, of Edinburgh, in whose hands the photographic negatives taken during the Challenger expedition have been placed by H.M.'s Stationery Department for preparation and publication, has printed a complete set of the plates. The photographs are 332 in number.

M. DE J. LEBRUN publishes in *La Houille* a paper 'On Explosions of Firedamp and Falls of the Barometer,' in which the following passage occurs: "Several English engineers and men of science have sought to establish a coincidence between great barometrical depressions and explosions of firedamp. An inspection of the tables published by the French Commission on Firedamp does not appear to prove this. There are as many explosions at moments when the barometer does not vary and when it rises as at those when it falls." This uncertainty should not be allowed to exist. The Commission on Accidents in Mines should endeavour to settle this important question.

THE Académie des Sciences of Paris offers for the present and three following years a medal of the value of 3,000 fr. for some important improvement in the theory of the electric transmission of work. The Bordin Prize of 3,000 fr. is also to be given for the best memoir 'On the Origin of Atmospheric Electricity and the Causes of the Great Development of Electrical Phenomena in Storm Clouds.' The first of these memoirs must be sent to the secretary of the Academy before the 1st of June, 1886; the second before the 1st of June next.

M. ALBERT GAUDRY, Professor of Palæontology in the Paris Museum of Natural History, opened the new gallery of palæontology last month. He in a pamphlet calls attention to the advantages of the new temporary gallery, which he says "will render a service, for it will give some idea of the majesty of ancient nature"; but he hopes shortly to see a permanent museum of fossils worthy of France.

## FINE ARTS

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'—DORE'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 25, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

David Scott, R.S.A., and his Works. By J. M. Gray. Illustrated. (Blackwood & Sons.)

ONE of the most picturesque figures in the rich gallery of Scottish artists is David Scott. The well-known painter, teacher, and poet, Mr. W. B. Scott, wrote, some years ago, a very just and affectionate biography of his brother, and the book had become scarce enough to make many wish for a reprint, when it occurred to Mr. Gray to reproduce the substance of it, add some new matter, and supply a copious, if not exhaustive catalogue of paintings, drawings, and engravings, and a goodly body of plates representing some of the best efforts of a really original and powerful designer.

We call David Scott a designer advisedly, because not only is that the title he would have coveted most, but it most aptly characterizes one who, to begin with, was a very uncertain draughtsman, and would not, or could not, endure the strain of that thorough technical education which fully develops the powers of an artist. There was a strong vein of poetry in David Scott, but it did not so pervade his mind that he must needs be an artist, fully qualified by studies for art's sake, or be nothing at all. His works show him to have been now under the influence of Fuseli, now of Flaxman, now of Blake. As Blake sometimes sank to puerility, and Fuseli's second-hand fury often degenerated into bathos, and Flaxman occasionally mistook mere baldness for severe and simple grace, so David Scott erred with all three of his models, and yet sometimes equalled the best of them at his best. Of course it is great praise to say that a poetic designer forgot to think about himself, and stood at any time on a level with Blake, or thought or drew in the classic spirit of Flaxman, or even touched the visionary lands in which Fuseli raged. David Scott had so little self-consciousness that we rank him with Blake in that respect. This is one of his noblest qualities, never to be under-estimated by the critic. It gave to his work, however crude and defective its technique might be, a fine sincerity and the charm of spontaneity. It made him almost a great artist, and only his lack of self-respect and self-control deprived him of a much larger share of honour than he obtained in life or is now likely to be paid to his memory. The magnificent qualities he possessed justified Rossetti's assertion that Scott's "was a great, though imperfectly acknowledged name," and "that of a painter most nearly fulfilling the highest requirements of historic art, both as a thinker and a colourist, who has appeared amongst us from the time of Hogarth to our own." Of course there is a world of reserve in the "nearly," and the art standard prevailing from Hogarth's time to our own was not so stately as the sound of this sentence seems to imply.

The astonishing inequality of his work must never blind us to the fact that Scott was undoubtedly a man of genius, and the critic must not hesitate to claim a high place

for him. A Royal Scottish Academician, he was hardly known beyond the Tweed, and although some of his best works were well engraved, he owes most of his reputation to his brother's affection. We have no doubt the plates in Mr. Gray's book will do a good deal to enhance the fame of David Scott, and the letterpress will aid in the matter.

David Scott was born in Edinburgh in 1806, on what day Mr. Gray does not say; his father was an engraver, whose likeness, here engraved, reminds us of both his sons, but more strongly of the living than the dead artist. Mr. W. B. Scott told us long ago that

"the father was of a grave temperament, deeply and somberly religious, suffering, too, from feeble and broken health. Four sons, all of them older than David, had been removed by death; and the mother, her thoughts brooding upon those who were gone, would often address the living children by the names of the dead. All the surroundings tended to confirm and intensify the naturally grave and earnest disposition of the lad."

Of a nervous and imaginative temperament, David, the eldest (of the children in the old-world nursery), to frighten the rest, fashioned a bolster, a sheet, and a mask into the semblance of a ghost; but he had no sooner raised it into an erect position than he was filled with horror of the Frankenstein his own hands had created, and alarmed the house with his screams. This boy had the making of a melodramatic and tragic designer in him. The imagination of such a youth was, when time had added strength to his conceptions and practice had given power to his hands, likely enough to design the tremendous figure of Nimrod, the mighty hunter, blowing his enormous horn with just so much real energy and so much bluster as suited the character. On the other hand, the drawing of this impressive, if grandiose figure is so curiously wrong that it needs all the vigour of a great conception to prevent the work from becoming ridiculous. The bogey in the bolster was only the first of Scott's Frankensteins.

In 1831, being then no tyro, Scott produced the contradictory, if not puzzling Monograms of Man, which owe more to Flaxman than their author suspected, and show that sympathy for Blake which never afterwards deserted Scott. We have a higher opinion than Mr. Gray of the twenty-five designs to the 'Ancient Mariner,' produced in 1831-2, and we think the spirits soaring above the ship, to say nothing of the groups of the starving seamen, among the best of the kind. We differ from Mr. Gray in the comparison he has unfortunately instituted between the designs of Sir Noel Paton illustrating the 'Ancient Mariner' and those of David Scott. Highly as our author praises Scott's, we should praise them more still; in fact, we do not think Sir N. Paton's ought to be mentioned in the same page, much less compared, with his countryman's. In 1832 Scott went to Italy by way of Paris and Geneva, but suffered from nostalgia and hypochondria. He became a writer on art in *Blackwood's Magazine*, and wielded the pen with force and that lack of the sense of proportion which was characteristic of the man. He made Emerson's acquaintance and painted his portrait. He competed twice

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at Westminster Hall—with cartoons in 1843 (not 1842, as Mr. Gray has it) and a fresco in 1844; he failed on both occasions, yet he deserved to succeed. He took public commissions and secured a provincial rather than a national reputation. He died March 5th, 1849. After his death his reputation was greatly increased by the presence of his impressive and thoroughly dramatic 'Traitors' Gate' at the International Exhibition in 1862.

## NEW PRINTS.

THE re-mark proof from a plate of half the figure of 'The Redeemer' in Herr Munkacsy's large picture of 'Christ before Pilate,' sent to us by Messrs. Obach & Co., as agents of M. Sedelmeyer, of Paris, is the work of M. A. Mathey, who executed the plate after Van Dyck's 'Children of Charles I.' which we recently admired. At present, beyond stating that it seems to us to embody an inadequate and wrong impression of the Saviour, we are not called on to criticize Herr Munkacsy's work at large. The principal figure was partly founded on an ignoble older type, and partly on a picturesque peasant model who figured in a South German Passion Play. The face is not holy, grand, nor beautiful, and its expression is peevish, irritable, and melodramatic. All that an admirable draughtsman could do with such an original M. Mathey has done; his plate illustrates the true qualities of etching desirable in such a case. The work as a whole is brilliant, rich in tone, and a masterpiece of fidelity. Reproduction of the peculiar technique of the painter could hardly be better. The re-mark is the crown of thorns, a hammer, and two nails.

From the same publishers we have received a re-mark proof of a plate etched by M. C. Koepping after M. Jules Breton's 'Le Matin,' a picture we noticed at the Salon. The scene is a level plain, belted by trees in the mid-distance, where a village is distinguishable, and beyond it are hills of no great elevation; a bright stream swerves to our right between meadows and then to our left. A burly rustic youth and a stalwart woman converse on opposite banks of the stream. The sun has just overpowered the vapours of the plain; his shadows define the furrows and are projected far along the sward by the human figures. The engraver has modelled the earth and figures with admirable felicity and care; the tones of the landscape and the figures could hardly be better given. The sole shortcoming is that the sky is too light in tone.

Messrs. Fores & Co. have sent us a re-mark proof from Mr. W. Cox's careful and neat, if somewhat hard, etched rendering of a picture by Mr. J. W. Nicol called 'Dolce con Espressione,' which represents two jesters singing from a music sheet placed on a table; the one accompanies his voice on a theorbo, the other on a lute. As the original is not a picture we should care to live with, we shall not frame the print.

## NOTES FROM ATHENS.

THE excavations at Elatea, which were undertaken by the École Française here on account of the temple of Athena Crania, have brought about a remarkable discovery, which, as a monument of church history, is of great importance. In the ruins of the church of the Mother of God at Elatea a member of the French institution named above found a great block of white-grey marble. The stone is 2m. '33 long, 0m. '64 broad, and 0m. '33 high. It bears the following inscription, which M. Diehl, in a special monograph, refers to the sixth century or the seventh:

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ΤΗC ΓΑΛΙΑΕΑC ΟΠΟΥ ΤΟ ΥΔΡΟ ΟΙΝΟΝ  
ΕΠΙΟΙΗCΕΝ Ο ΚC ΗΜΩΝ ΙC ΧC +

This inscription means "This stone comes from

Cana in Galilee, where our Lord Jesus Christ turned the water into wine." The inscription is written upon one of the narrow sides of the stone, in seven lines, running parallel to the breadth and not the length. M. Diehl translates the words οὗτος ἐστὶν ὁ λίθος by "C'est ici la fameuse pierre"; but there is no ground for such a translation, in spite of the position of ἐστὶν, which would naturally be expected to follow the words ὁ λίθος. Besides this inscription the stone bears at one of the corners of one of the broad sides the remains of another inscription, in small letters of the size of five millimètres, written in two parallel columns. The remaining portion has these words: καὶ τῆς μητρὸς μου Ἀντωνίνου. Now we have to explain this.

It is well known with what undoubting belief and what adoring piety holy relics connected with the life and Passion of the Redeemer were preserved and venerated, and with what zeal pilgrims and travellers in the East took count of these relics. Consequently in Cana various monuments were preserved and carefully mentioned by pilgrims. Antoninus of Piacenza, in the sixth century, saw there two of the pitchers in which the miracle of the conversion of the water into wine was said to have taken place. He even declares that he himself drew wine instead of the water which had been poured into it. In the eighth century St. Willibald found at Cana a great church in which one of the pitchers was preserved. But as early as the fifth century began the removal of pitchers to Western countries; so that in the thirteenth century only the memory of the pitchers and the miracle remained at Cana. But the first of the pilgrims who spoke of it, Antoninus of Piacenza, saw also another relic besides the pitchers at Cana. He says in his Itinerarium: "Deinde venimus miliaria 3 in Canam, ubi Dominus fuit ad nuptias, et accubimus in ipso accubitu, ubi ego indignus parentum meorum nomina scripsi." The word "accubitus" is rendered by Ducange "triclinium." M. Diehl understands it differently, and thinks this rare word means a bed upon which one accommodated oneself at meal-times. In this case Antoninus would have seen the stone bed on which Jesus had sat at table at the wedding. Upon this stone the pious pilgrim inscribed the *proscynema* of his relations. M. E. le Blant agrees with this explanation. Of this relic to be seen at Cana, upon which Antoninus had, so to say, set his seal, there is no mention after his time. What, then, became of it? M. Diehl conjectures that at the time when Palestine was threatened by Persian or Arab invaders some pious person removed it to some securer place, perhaps to Constantinople. Everything favours his opinion that we have now found it at Elatea, although we cannot trace the history and details of the wanderings of the miraculous stone. Elatea was in the Middle Ages a place of little importance. It was the seat of a bishop in the fourth and fifth centuries. Only once is it mentioned in the sixth century as one of the towns of the province of Hellas. But that it was not without importance down to the thirteenth century is shown by the discovery of coins of that period in the vicinity of the ruins of the church. This church itself, however, which seems to have been built for the special purpose of receiving the stone of Cana, is difficult to date. Some indications lead M. Diehl to the conclusion that it must have been built immediately after the Byzantine period, by one of the Latin princes who held sway in Northern Greece, either Otho de la Roche or Guido Pallavicini, Marquis of Bodonitz. To one of these potentates the relic may have been given at Byzantium, and after his settlement in Greece brought to Elatea.

These are the results of M. Diehl's speculations upon the remarkable find at Elatea. I have been anxious to put them before the readers of the *Athenæum*, although, from the importance of the matter, further study is required. This will not be wanting, as the Greek

Minister of Public Instruction intends to send a special commission to study the stone *in situ*.

SPYR. P. LAMBROS.

## FINE-ART GOSSIP.

No picture by Mr. E. Burne Jones will be at the Grosvenor Exhibition this year. The gallery will probably be opened on the 1st of May, or if not so, on the Monday following. On the latter day the Royal Academy will be opened; on the former the Salon.

MR. EYRE CROWE has finished, and will probably send to the Royal Academy, three pictures: 1, 'Orisons,' a party of Sisters of Mercy kneeling in prayer before the chancel of an ancient Norman church; we see them from near the altar, while their figures and the time-worn interior and its furniture are illuminated by the afternoon sun. 2, 'A Wedding Tour in Normandy,' a young English couple riding a tandem tricycle in the High Street of an old and picturesque town, much to the admiration and edification of the observers. 3, 'A Little Fish,' a buxom young mother, the wife of a Norman fisherman, sitting at the door of a cottage, amid the implements of her husband's craft—nets, oars, &c.—and nursing a gleeful baby.

MR. SOLON is about to publish through Messrs. Bemrose a new edition of 'The Art of the Old English Potter,' which we reviewed a week or two ago. It will be issued in a cheaper form, to bring it within the reach of those to whom the larger work, with the copperplate etchings, was inaccessible. The etchings will not be reproduced, but the work will be illustrated by upwards of fifty examples not given in the former edition, which have been selected from various public and private collections and engraved from sketches made by the author. The letterpress has been revised, and will include much additional information. There will also be a new chapter on the introduction of English earthenware on the Continent, especially in France. The names are given of the potters who, towards the latter end of the last century, are known to have settled abroad, taking with them their own ways and means, and also the names of the many places where their processes replaced those of older fashion. This portion of the work is an endeavour to secure for the English operatives who emigrated at that time the credit of having established all over Europe the manufacture of flint ware.

MR. MURRAY promises 'Symbols and Emblems of Christian Art,' by Miss L. Twining. The book will be accompanied by ninety-two illustrative engravings from paintings, miniatures, sculptures, and monuments.

MR. WESTON, ex-Mayor of Bristol, has set a good example to his fellow dignitaries who may not be in a position to imitate the magnificent liberality of the founder of the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool. Mr. Weston, willing to commemorate his term of office in a graceful manner, bought of Mr. C. P. Knight, one of the ablest of the Bristol landscape painters, his picture of 'Cawsand Bay, Trawlers returning from Plymouth,' and presented it to the Town Council of Bristol, who have directed that the work should be hung in the Mansion House of the city. The picture was in the Royal Academy Exhibition of 1878.

MR. C. HALLÉ has just finished an unusually important picture for the Grosvenor Exhibition, which he calls 'Palmistry,' a handsome young Italian damsel submitting her palm to the scrutiny of an aged crone, who, one forefinger energetically raised, declares all sorts of fortune for the inquirer.

ON the 28th inst. and three following days Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods will sell the collections of portrait medals, miniatures, majolica, glass, bronzes, antique rings, and other works formed by the late Mr. Cheney. Among

the medals are examples of the skill of Pisano, Sperandio, Cellini, Pastorino, and others. Some of the miniatures are very interesting. These include Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford, by Zincke; Richard Cromwell, by Cooper; Handel, by Zincke; several likenesses of Marie Antoinette, by Lawrence, Roslin, and others; the old and young Pretenders; Graham of Claverhouse, by Faithorne; Count Anthony Hamilton, by Lewis Cross; and Shelley the poet, said to have been drawn by Antoine, Duc de Montpensier, who is buried in Westminster Abbey.

ONE of the rooms vacated in the British Museum at Bloomsbury by the removal of the natural history collections to South Kensington has been appropriated to the display of a second instalment of the very miscellaneous collection of works of mediæval art and curiosities of many kinds and origins. Objects that have been for years lying in holes, drawers, and corners, and many things which have been in wrong places ever since they came into the nation's possession by gift, bequest, or purpose, have been arranged in something like order. Among them are Mr. Maskell's fine collection of Gothic and other ivory carvings and the Celtic chessmen from the Isle of Lewis; Lady Fellows's noble group of horological implements, watches, and time measurers of many sorts, dating from the middle of the sixteenth century; Arabian, Venetian, Nuremberg, and North German metal-work, chiefly brass; the remains (generously given by General Meyrick) of the Meyrick collection of armour, which the Treasury was unwise enough not to buy *en bloc*; William Burges's valuable bequest of armour, ecclesiastical implements, utensils, ornaments, and furniture; the famous astrolabe of Sir Hans Sloane; Arabian astrolabes; French enamels of the Renaissance period; quasi-classic and Byzantine consular and other diptychs of ivory; the magnificent gift of the Rev. H. Crowe (a plaque of ivory carved in high relief, representing Christ supported by two angels, attributed to pupils of V. Vicentino); talismans, including the famous dark crystal ball called "Dr. Dee's show stone," often mentioned in this would-be wizard's "Diary"; a superb collection of Limoges enamels; the so-called "Cellini cup," which used to be in the Print Room; and a host of quaint, elaborate, and beautiful odds and ends.

A PICTURE to which M. Baudry's reputation owes much, entitled "La Fortune et le Jeune Enfant," which for some time past has not been seen at the Luxembourg, has been replaced. Having very much deteriorated, the picture has been successfully restored, at the request of M. Baudry himself, by M. Charles Mercier, the Restaurateur de l'École des Beaux-Arts.

THE superb pictures by Frank Hals lately bought by the Louvre have been hung at the bottom of the Grande Galerie. We have already given the histories of these works.

M. THÉODORE GRUYERE, the sculptor, who gained the Prix de Rome in 1839, is dead. He obtained medals of the Third Class in 1836, of the Second Class in 1843, of the First Class in 1846, a *rappel* in 1857, and the Legion of Honour in 1866 for his group of "Chactas pleurant sur la Tombe d'Atala." Among his remarkable works were "Mucius Scevola," which is in the Luxembourg, and a statue of Dupleix which is at Pondicherry. His latest production is a statue of Quinault for the Hôtel de Ville, Paris. He executed many sculptures in the destroyed Hôtel, and a considerable number of statues now in Parisian churches. He had attained the age of seventy-one years. So says the *Journal des Arts*.

THE Meissonier Exhibition produced 42,000 francs nett, 34,000 of which have been given to the Hôpitalité de Nuit, and 8,000 to the poor of Poissy.

AMONG contributions to the approaching Salon the following are noteworthy: M. Aublet's "L'Heure du Bain au Tréport" and a portrait;

M. J. Desbrosses's "Le Mont Cervin" and "Le Val d'Illiers"; M. Léon Lhermitte's "Le Vin"; M. Veyrassat's "Arabes à la Fontaine" and "Les Maquignons"; M. J. Benner's "Fleurs"; M. Bouguereau's "Biblis changée en Source"; and "L'Étable de Bethléem," a diptych; M. Cabanel's "La Fille de Jephthé et ses Compagnons" and "Portrait de Femme"; M. Clairin's "Le Dernier des Rois Maures"; M. Feyen-Perrin's "Pêcheuse de Cancale"; M. Gervex's "Une Séance du Jury de Peinture"; M. Guillemet's "Paris vu de Meudon"; M. le Comte du Nouy's "Les Orientales" and "Les Contemplations"; M. Moreau de Tours's "La Stigmatisée"; M. Henri Saintin's "Un Chemin en Bretagne"; M. Segé's "La Vallée de la Sée" (Manche) and "Les Prés de Saint-Pair" (Manche); M. Yon's "La Meuse à Dordrecht" and "Une Vue des Andelys." M. A. Yvon will exhibit two portraits. In addition we gather from the *Moniteur des Arts* that M. Henner will be represented by "Rêverie" and "Tête de Femme"; M. J. Breton by "Dernier Rayon et le Chant de l'Alouette"; M. E. Frère by "Un Bivouac"; M. P. Carrier-Belleuse by "Printemps et Hiver" and a portrait; M. L. Bérond by "Henri III. à Venise"; M. J. Béraud by "Les Fous"; M. Hector Leroux by "La Pierre Mystérieuse de Pompei" and "La Fille de Jephthé"; M. K. Daubigny by "Les Sables d'Arbonne, Fontainebleau," and "Barques de Pêche dans la Baie d'Étaples, Marée Basse"; and M. L. Jimenez by "Le Pot au Feu." M. Harpignies sends two landscapes, one large, the other small; the former is entitled "Soir sur les Bords de la Loire," the latter "Étude." M. Maillart sends "Mort de Corréus, Chef des Bellovaques." M. Maignan sends "Guillaume le Conquérant," and M. J. van Beers a portrait. M. Craux will contribute a statue of General Chanzy.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.—"Maritana," "Carmen," "Faust."

ATTENTION has already been drawn to the announcements respecting Mr. Carl Rosa's opera season at Drury Lane Theatre, which commenced on Monday last; but before speaking of the opening performances it may be as well to emphasize the fact that Mr. Rosa is now making a more determined effort than ever before to establish English opera in London, and the amount of interest taken in this matter by the musical public will be tested by the measure of support he receives. Should his enterprise meet with indifference it will be fair to assume that there is no general desire for the establishment of a lyric theatre, and it would, consequently, be waste of labour to urge the question any further. No blame can accrue to Mr. Rosa for devoting the first week of his season to the repetition of familiar operas, Easter week being generally a holiday period as regards music, while time has thus been gained for the preparation of the more important works. Scarcely anything need be said respecting the performances of "Maritana," "Carmen," and "Faust." Wallace's opera is little more than a string of ballads, the popularity of which causes the work to keep the stage. Madame Georgina Burns, Mr. Maas, and Mr. Ludwig, rendered full justice to the principal characters, and as Lazarillo Miss Marian Burton showed that she has improved considerably since last year. Another member of the company, Mr. Barton

McGuckin, also showed, by his assumption of Don José in "Carmen," that he has made a noteworthy advance as an actor. The cast of Bizet's opera remains the same as last year, and the general performance is the best that the work has received in London. Madame Burns gave a very dramatic reading of the part of Marguerite, while Mr. Maas was somewhat tame as Faust. The Valentine of Mr. Crotty was an excellent performance. The orchestra and chorus are of admirable quality, and the scenic arrangements, under the direction of Mr. Augustus Harris, are elaborate and in good taste. The preparation of "Nadeshda" is in a forward state, and the work will be produced next Thursday evening.

### Musical Gossip.

THE full programme of the Handel Festival has been issued. As already announced, the dates are June 19th, rehearsal; 22nd, "Messiah"; 24th, selection; 26th, "Israel in Egypt." In its main features the bicentenary celebration will, therefore, resemble ordinary festivals, but rather more variety and novelty are to be included on the selection day. We are promised several airs and choruses not previously introduced, and a greater infusion of instrumental items. Among the latter will be a double concerto, said to have been recently discovered by Mr. Rockstro among the MSS. in Handel's handwriting at Buckingham Palace; the Overture to "Saul," which will be performed as nearly as possible according to the composer's original score; an organ concerto in B flat, No. 3, of the second set; and a violin sonata, which (with questionable artistic propriety) will be played by all the violins of the orchestra, about 160 in number. The leading vocalists engaged are Mesdames Albani, Annie Marriot, Suter, Valleria, Patey, and Trebelli; and Messrs. Lloyd, Maas, Santley, B. Foote, F. King, Bridson, and Foli. The organisers will be Mr. W. T. Best and Mr. A. J. Eyre; and Mr. Manns, to whom so much of the success of the last festival was due, will, of course, officiate as conductor.

In some former years Easter Eve has not been included in the dates of the Crystal Palace concerts, and the experience of last Saturday went to prove that it was somewhat unwise to give a concert on this day without making the programme specially attractive. There was a novelty, but it was placed at the end of the programme, a course adopted when the work is considered of no importance. The "Festival Procession," from Goldmark's opera "The Queen of Sheba," must, therefore, be spoken of on another occasion, should it ever be repeated. A very fine performance of Berlioz's symphony "Harold en Italie," with Mr. Krause in the solo viola part, roused the sparse audience to something like enthusiasm. Miss Jessie Morrison was only moderately successful in Weber's Concertstück. She was not altogether note perfect, and her tone was weak; but these defects might have been condoned had she not added to them another far more serious, that of wilful alterations of Weber's text. Executants of the highest rank are scarcely justified in elaborating the works of classical masters, and for ordinary performers to make changes of any kind is simply an impertinence. The "Waldweben," from Wagner's "Siegfried," was included in Saturday's programme, and Mr. Lloyd sang excerpts from "Oberon" and "Die Meistersinger."

MADAME FRICKENHAUS and Herr Ludwig announce another series of chamber concerts, to take place at the Prince's Hall on May 14th and 28th, and June 11th and 25th.

THE concerts of chamber music given under Mr. G. H. Betjemann's direction at the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution have proved so successful that an extra performance

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has been arranged to take place next Thursday evening, when the programme will include Beethoven's Septet and other popular works.

M. LAMOUREUX gave his last concert for the season at the Château d'Eau theatre on Good Friday, the programme consisting entirely of excerpts from Wagner's operas. Almost every item was redemanded, the enthusiasm of the crowded audience being extraordinary. The revulsion of feeling in favour of Wagner in Paris appears to be complete, and the time may, therefore, be considered ripe for the production of some of his operas on French soil.

If the death of Franz Abt does not awaken much interest in musical circles, it is because the composer had outlived his time. Born in 1819, and well grounded in music at the Leipzig Thomasschule and Conservatorium, he early devoted his attention to the writing of ballads and trivial part-songs for male voices, and in these departments of his art he achieved remarkable popularity. Some of his songs gained immense success in England, but they are now rarely heard in the concert-room, and it does not appear likely that they will survive the present generation. For this, however, the composer should not be blamed. He possessed a vein of graceful melody, but his music has no depth or originality, and consequently it will not endure. Abt belonged to that class of composers who appeal exclusively to the public of their own time, and whose fame is, therefore, necessarily ephemeral.

THE birthday of Handel was observed in Boston (U.S.) by a concert of the Handel and Haydn Society, a large number of choruses and solos from unfamiliar oratorios being given. Bach's birthday was also remembered on March 21st in the programme of the Symphony Concert which fell on that day, as follows: Toccata in F (instrumented by Esser), Chaconne for violin alone, and the Christmas Oratorio. There was also a concert in the afternoon given by Mr. B. J. Lang, in which concertos for one, two, three, and four pianofortes were given with string accompaniment, and (for the first time in America) the humorous 'Coffee Cantata,' Rheinberger's 'Christoforus' and Mendelssohn's 'Camacho's Wedding' were produced in Boston for the first time last March. The Symphony Concerts in Boston have been twenty-four in number, weekly from October 18th to March 28th. Mr. Wilhelm Gericke has been the conductor, succeeding Mr. Georg Henschel in that position. The season of German opera in America has not been interrupted by the death of Dr. Leopold Damrosch, but has continued to be very successful in Chicago, Boston, and elsewhere, as well as in New York. The repertoire has embraced 'Fidelio,' 'La Juive,' 'Le Prophète,' 'Masaniello,' 'Huguenots,' 'Tannhäuser,' 'Lohengrin,' 'Die Walküre,' &c.

## DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

VAUDEVILLE.—'Under Fire,' a Comedy in Four Acts. By Westland Marston.  
ADELPHI.—'The Last Chance,' a Drama in Five Acts. By G. R. Sims.  
PRINCESS'S.—Revival of 'The Silver King.'  
TOOLE'S.—Revival of 'The Upper Crust' and 'Mr. Guffin's Elopement.'  
OPERA COMIQUE.—'The Excursion Train.' By the Author of 'The Candidate' and W. Yardley.  
PRINCE'S.—Revival of 'Peril,' a Play in Four Acts. Adapted from 'Nos Intimes' by B. C. Stephenson and Clement Scott.  
OLYMPIC.—'April Folly,' a Farce in One Act. By J. F. Hurst.  
ST. JAMES'S.—Revival of 'A Quiet Rubber' and 'The Queen's Shilling.'  
LYCEUM.—Revival of 'The Lady of Lyons.'

'UNDER FIRE,' the new drama by Dr. Westland Marston at the Vaudeville Theatre, is the most important of the Eastertide novelties. A play which owes nothing to any foreign source, which employs psychology as a means of stimulating interest,

and, with no strain after wit, is written in a style which enables it to rank as literature, is anything rather than an every-day production. These merits, with others not much more common, may be claimed by 'Under Fire.' The chief drawback is the absence of a central love interest able to command the sympathies of the public. Experience has shown that any amount of cynicism will be tolerated so long as there is in the desert one oasis. There are, of course, successful comedies in abundance in which no such thing is supplied. The wooing of Charles Surface and Maria in 'The School for Scandal,' that of Lydia Languish and Captain Absolute in 'The Rivals,' and that, again, of young Marlow and Miss Hardcastle in 'She Stoops to Conquer,' inspire very moderate interest. These are none the less dangerous examples to follow. The popularity of 'Under Fire' would have been much increased had the love passages between the juvenile heroine and either of her admirers been more stimulating or had a touch of genuine passion been infused into the wooing of any of the three pairs of lovers who are introduced.

Dr. Marston's heroine is a woman of the world with an exaggerated estimate of the value of her social surroundings. Her origin is worse than obscure, since her father is at the present moment a *forçat*, and she has herself been a singer at a *café chantant*. The secret guarded during many years has come into the possession of a designing woman, who uses it for the purpose of levying blackmail. The one apparent issue from this difficult position involves the sacrifice by the heroine of her daughter's happiness. From this neither mother nor daughter shrinks. The younger gives up the man she loves and pledges herself to a second; the elder accepts the sacrifice, and, in so doing, forfeits all claim on the sympathies of the audience. Dr. Marston is too tender to his heroine. In many of his plays he has aimed at ideal womanhood. To justify a sacrifice such as Lady Fareham exacts and Caroline Fareham accomplishes a woman should be in a position of real peril—should be in danger of losing something more than her position in society. A woman would rather the fact that her father has been condemned to *travaux forcés* should be kept in the dark, but she would scarcely demand as the price of guarding her secret the life of her daughter. Analogous with this defect is that which mars the character of the hero, Charles Wolverley, a sucking barrister, writer, and politician. The steps by which a man who at the outset appears eccentric and weak becomes base and odious are not perceptible, and a character which has been carefully conceived, and is obviously a favourite with the author, remains incomprehensible. The strongest scenes in 'Under Fire' are those between Lady Fareham and her assailant. These are sufficient to rouse the audience to strong manifestations of enthusiasm. They were admirably played by Miss Amy Roselle, whose acting had both delicacy and breadth, and by Mrs. Canninge. Mr. F. Archer as Charles Wolverley gave a good picture of stolid self-sufficiency. Mr. Thorne was unsuited to the character of a good-hearted, but brusque-mannered baronet which was assigned him. Mr. Sugden, Mr.

F. Thorne, and Miss Kate Phillips were seen to fair advantage.

An Adelphi melodrama is a product of ingenuity rather than of dramatic fervour. Of the former quality Mr. Sims has abundance, and his new play 'The Last Chance' is wholly to the taste of his patrons. His inventive and literary gifts have been put to no very great strain. So closely does 'The Last Chance' resemble a score previous pieces of its class, its incidents and situations pass from the memory almost as soon as they are seen. It is otherwise, however, with the effects that the drama is the means of introducing. Long after all recollection of Frank Daryll and James Barton, Mary Barton and Nelly Peters, has passed away, memories will be recalled of the scenes within and without the West India Docks, with the crowd of hungry applicants clamouring for work. In itself the accident that befalls the hero is a small matter. It is far less effective than the fall in 'L'Assommoir,' and does not, like this, grow out of the action of the play, but is a pure mischance. The surroundings are, however, happy, and the eager, thronging mob and the white, inanimate face of the victim are likely to be long remembered. Mr. Sims has touch of the time, and his work has immediate interest. He would himself be the last to claim for it invention or literary grace. The most that can be said about his story is that it presents familiar figures in combinations which in their sequence, at least, are novel, and the sole merit of the dialogue is that it is characteristic and appropriate. Miss Louise Moodie, Miss Mary Rorke, Mr. Charles Warner, Mr. Fernandez, and other members of the company supply an adequate interpretation.

The reappearance of Mr. Wilson Barrett and his company in 'The Silver King' brings back to the Princess's the tide of success. Wilfred Denver is thoroughly suited to Mr. Barrett, and its earlier acts show him at his best. The opening scenes are, indeed, among the strongest in modern drama.

Mr. Toole has reappeared at the pleasant little theatre named after him, and has played Barnaby Doublechick in 'The Upper Crust' and Benjamin Guffin in 'Mr. Guffin's Elopement.'

The version of 'Le Train de Plaisir' given at the Opéra Comique, under the title of 'The Excursion Train,' is clumsy. It has most of the faults of the original, the brightness of which it misses. It is a misfortune for the play that the second act opens out a new interest, and disturbs with further explanations those who, at the close of an act consisting wholly of explanations, are expecting incident. This fault is inherent in the piece. It is otherwise with the treatment of the central figure, a newly married butcher whose wedding trip to Monaco involves him in innumerable perplexities. A character fundamentally French and placed in the midst of Frenchmen owes in the English version whatever drollery it possesses to jokes and proceedings which are purely English. So bright is Mr. James's performance, what is incongruous is overlooked. Mr. James has a rubicund self-contentment as effective in its way as the comic unction of M. Dau-bray, by whom, in the piece of MM. Gon-

dinet, Mortier, and Saint Albin, the character was created. Mr. Irish supplies also a good representation of the chief of police at Monaco, a rôle in which he was preceded by M. Milher. To the exertions of these two actors 'The Excursion Train' owed its escape from wreck. If it is to become a success the interminable second act will have to be compressed.

To the characters in which Mrs. Langtry has been seen in London must now be added Lady Ormond in 'Peril.' This rôle is better suited to the actress than one or two others in which she has lately appeared. Mrs. Langtry assigns the character a certain worldliness of manner, which may be accepted as appropriate. The weariness of a life of routine which leads to her playing with fire, and the kind of presence of mind which enables her, in a scene in which what is nearest to passion in the nature of a fashionable woman is aroused, to hit on a means of escape and remove from her own apparel some of the signs of struggle, are effective. Mr. Beerbohm Tree assigns to Sir Woodbine Grafton an unusually comic physiognomy, and makes up with considerable pains a singularly droll and yet conceivable figure. Mrs. Arthur Stirling, Mr. Everill, Mr. Carne, and other members of the company are seen to tolerable advantage, and Mr. Coghlan acts as Captain Bradford with the care and moderation that have distinguished his later efforts.

Miss Ada Cavendish has reappeared at the Olympic as Marie Graham in 'In His Power,' which goes, it is needless to say, the better for her reappearance. A one-act farce, by Mr. J. P. Hurst, entitled 'April Folly,' has been added to the programme. It is a fairly bright little piece which is likely to go better when it is more closely played. Mr. Beck and Miss Goldney were among the interpreters.

By the revival of 'A Quiet Rubber' and 'The Queen's Shilling' the St. James's is furnished with the most acceptable programme that theatre has lately been able to boast. Mr. Hare as Lord Kilclare in the first piece gives once more an admirably finished sketch, and is supported by Mr. Maclean, who takes for the first time, not too satisfactorily, the rôle of Mr. Sullivan. In 'The Queen's Shilling' Mrs. Kendal is again Kate Greville, Mr. Kendal once more Frank Maitland, and Mr. Hare Colonel Daunt. The comedy is played with unsurpassable brightness.

'The Lady of Lyons' has been revived at the Lyceum, Miss Anderson reappearing as Pauline; Mr. Terriss playing Claude Melnotte; Mr. A. Stirling, for the first time, Colonel Damas; Miss C. Leclercq, Madame Deschappelles; and Mr. Standing, Beauseant. Miss Anderson obtained a warm reception in a character which is less suited to her powers than are others in which in course of her farewell performances she is announced to appear.

#### SHAKESPEARE NOTES.

Berlin, W., Matthaei Kirch Strasse.  
A Fellow almost damn'd in a faire Wife,  
'Othello,' I. i. 21.

It is not necessary to speak about all the endeavours that have been made to give a sense to this line; Alex. Schmidt, in his 'Shakespeare Lexicon,' calls it an "unintelligible passage,"

and the same opinion is expressed in nearly all studies made on the same subject.

There is one way acknowledged to be the best in elucidating and emending the text of an author; it is in investigating his thought, in examining the *ductus literarum* of the manuscript or the printed copy, and if that does not lead to a conclusion, to ask whether similarity of sound has perhaps been the error's cause. The last step to be taken is to prove that the result of the emendation, the new word or phrase, belongs to the stock of words or phrases found in the author's works.

Now, this theory applied to the line in 'Othello,' let us ask what Iago intends to say of Cassio in addressing Roderigo. He wishes to prove that this Florentine, this great "Arithmetician," is all but a man. He never set a squadron in the field, he knows not more about the division of a battle than a spinster does. The mutilated line must have contained something corresponding with that, and surely did so, if I am allowed to suppose my conjecture to be a right one: He is not a man, knows nothing of the military profession, and can at the best make women fall in love with him; see, e.g., Act I. sc. iii. lines 403, 404, where Iago speaks of Cassio:—

He hath a person, and a smooth dispose  
To be suspected: fram'd to make women false.

And Act II. sc. i. line 249 sq.:—

Besides, the knave is handsome, young: and hath all those requisites in him that folly and green minds look after.

And last, not least, Act II. sc. i. line 316:—

For I fear Cassio with my nightcap too.  
Speaking of the fair wife, Iago no doubt reflects on his own wife too.

Now, concerning the sound, I find that "damn'd in" is very easily misunderstood for "tempting," and concerning the *ductus literarum* and the sound, "almost" is easily misunderstood for "at most":—

A fellow at most tempting a fair wife.  
This is perfectly in keeping with what has been quoted above. The verb "to tempt" is very familiar with Shakespeare, while "at most" in a similar sense is found in 'Macbeth,' Act III. sc. i. line 128. F. A. LEO.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

In addition to the Easter novelties included under "The Week," new dramas have been given at the Grand, the Standard, and the Britannia theatres. At the house first named the piece is entitled 'A Dangerous Game,' and is by Sir Randal Roberts, who takes part in the representation. Mr. Edward Rose supplies the Standard with a four-act play entitled 'Two Women,' in which Miss Amy Steinberg and Mr. Arthur Dacre appear. The novelty at the Britannia is entitled 'Home Once More.'

MR. BJÖRNSTJERNE BJÖRNSSON'S historical play 'Sigurd Slembo,' published in 1862, has just been performed, for the first time in Norway, at the Christiania Theatre with great success. The author's son, Björn Björnson, plays the title rôle, and has also the credit of the excellent way in which the piece has been mounted. The play was performed in Germany some years ago by the Duke of Meiningen's company. Mr. Björnstjerne Björnson, who is still living in Paris, has been dangerously ill of late, his complaint being angina pectoris, but he is now much better and able to walk out.

A DRAMATIC and musical entertainment for the benefit of Miss Edith Heraud, who has been for five years incapacitated from following her profession, is to be given in St. George's Hall on Wednesday afternoon, May 6th. Mrs. Kendal, Mrs. Boucicault, Mrs. Arthur Stirling, Lady Monckton, Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, and Messrs. Toole, Vezin, Wyndham, Warner, Neville, and Grossmith have promised assistance.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. D. S.—J. D.—G. M. I. B.—G. H. S.—C.—received.

Erratum.—P. 445, col. 1, line 17 from foot, omit "nearly."

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